

Inflation up to 19.8% and certain to go higher

Inflation has risen to 19.8 per cent and seems to reach 21 per cent in the early summer the predicted fall. Price increases are big pay increases, which themselves are increasing influence on inflation. Apart from raw materials and fuel.

Heavy increases in industry's costs

Blake Editor
Inflation rate jumped month to an annual 19.8 per cent and there is prospect of much more in the months ahead.

The inflation rate rose to 19.8 per cent in March from 18.2 per cent in February. It is now certain that inflation will reach 21 per cent in the early summer.

The figures contain a sting for the Government: the likely pace of inflation in the months ahead.

Before the Budget, the inflation rate was 18.2 per cent. The rate of inflation is to creep steadily, then measured over months. The Budget will give a further 1.1 per cent to the price level, but this will be over the 20 per cent mark.

Increases spread the economy in food, tobacco and here were also increases in bus fares. The figures are expected to be a further increase in the price of food, tobacco and here were also increases in bus fares. The figures are expected to be a further increase in the price of food, tobacco and here were also increases in bus fares.

Thatcher says things will be better in August

Thatcher gave warning that inflation would be higher next month. She said that things would be better in August. She said that things would be better in August. She said that things would be better in August.

liquidity squeeze for industry. It is estimated that average earnings are rising at about 20 per cent a year.

That has increased industry's costs heavily. In addition, companies have had to pay more for the raw materials and fuel, with increased oil prices contributing about two-thirds of the 28 per cent increase recorded in industry's spending. There are at least some signs that this cost pressure may be easing.

But the increase in wages continues at a high and apparently accelerating pace, which may call into question the Government's prediction that the inflation rate will fall to 16.1 per cent by the end of the year. Many economic forecasters say that the inflation rate could be as high as 18 per cent even by the year end.

There is even greater uncertainty about how quickly the inflation rate will come down in 1981. The Government expects it to be down to around 14 per cent by the second quarter of next year.

There are grave doubts about how quickly wages will react to rising unemployment. The Government hopes that the next pay round will see a sharp drop in the average level of settlements, though its opposition to the idea of a formal incomes policy is unlikely to specify a target for the pay round which begins in July.

Government ministers have given a warning that unless inflation comes down through the acceptance of smaller pay rises there will be a big jump in unemployment as rising inflation conflicts with the Government's tight monetary policy.

The current monetary guidelines are designed to be consistent with an inflation rate far below the current level. To get wages down while inflation is still high and rising is difficult; but to get inflation down while wages are still soaring is virtually impossible. Ministers are likely to devote many speeches to seeking to break this spiral over the coming months.

Call for ban on NF march

Leave to apply for an order compelling Sir David McNea, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, to ban a march through Lewisham, London, by the National Front tomorrow.

Earlier, Mrs Thatcher had faced a demonstration by about 200 people when she arrived at the Lansing factory. About 100 employees walked out in protest over the visit.

But inside the factory employees shook her hand and some wore "trade unionists for a Tory victory" rosettes.

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Shop stewards will meet at West Bromwich on Monday and later report to mass meetings of strikers. There are fears that some militant plants will stay out for a few days longer.

Spanish tourism fall

Spain is expecting the number of tourists to drop again this year after the record number of almost 40 million visitors in 1978. Hotel prices are expected to increase by up to 12 per cent this summer but will be the same off-peak.

Teachers get full rise

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Mr Ronald Reagan flew into Philadelphia for the Pennsylvania primary campaign, made a speech at lunch, went to the market, answered questions for an hour, gave two television interviews, spoke again at dinner and then flew off to North Dakota.

Grenades kill two in Salisbury suburbs

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, April 18
His task fulfilled, Lord Soames, accompanied by his wife and members of his administration, left here this evening at the end of his four-month governorship during which war-torn Rhodesia was transformed into Zimbabwe.

He looked emotional as he paid his final farewells at the airport to Mr Robert Mugabe, the nation's new Prime Minister. After experiencing initial mutual enmity and mistrust, the Zimbabwean Marxist had developed a sense of respect and even liking for one another.

Lord Soames' departure followed some hours after that of the Prince of Wales who presided over last night's independence ceremony.

The Prince, whose good-humoured informality was widely appreciated by Zimbabweans, smiled broadly when a goat, the regimental mascot of the guard of honour, was presented to him.

While heads of foreign delegations were preparing to leave Salisbury, police were following up a number of violent incidents which marked what were otherwise generally peaceful independence day celebrations. Early this morning a series of grenades exploded in two of Salisbury's black suburbs killing two people and injuring 33.

The deaths took place when two grenades were thrown at a crowd of celebrating Africans in Mabuku township east of the capital. A third grenade was thrown at the police when they arrived to investigate the incident. A fourth grenade was thrown the same township a short while later when a crowd of people started attacking another township resident.

Earlier three people were injured when a grenade was thrown at a group of people who were celebrating independence in Mufakose township west of Salisbury.

This morning 234 remand prisoners organized a spectacular breakout from Salisbury central prison when they overpowered warders who were opening their cells. The men broke their way through the prison gates and the perimeter fence and then started marching as a group towards the city centre. Almost all of them were quickly recaptured by police and prison staff who, according to a spokesman, deliberately did not use force so as not to mar the independence celebrations.

Meanwhile, scores of countries today announced the establishment of diplomatic relations with Zimbabwe. They included the United States, China and the Soviet Union.

Record-breaking train derailed at 100 mph

By Michael Bailey Transport Correspondent
British Rail's record-breaking Advanced Passenger Train jumped the track at 100 mph on trials near Carnforth, Lancashire, yesterday. Senior railway officials were on board, including Mr Ian Campbell, the vice-chairman.

The train remained upright and no one was injured but the track was damaged. That caused single-line running and delays to the London-Glasgow service. The train, which established a British speed record of 160 mph last year, is one of three prototypes due to enter passenger service between London and Glasgow in June and British Rail said last night that investigations into the cause of the incident would determine if the train would be delayed.

It was not known if the cause was defective track or a fault in the undercarriage, which contains many advanced features including a tilting mechanism for high-speed cornering.

The train has been under development since 1967, and the three prototypes have clocked up 140,000 miles in the past year alone without any incident of this kind.

If the cause was defective track, the June launchings should proceed as planned, British Rail said last night. If a defect in the train was to blame redesign would be necessary causing a delayed entry into service.

So far £25m has been spent on development, and British Rail has been planning to seek government authorization for 60 more sets at about £2m each to take over the entire service between London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow by the mid-1980s.

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The Prince of Wales speaks to a soldier of the Rhodesian Air Force before leaving independent Zimbabwe.

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Paris hint of US contact with Tehran

From Ian Murray Paris, April 18
Mr Sadeq Oubadeh, the Iranian Foreign Minister, arrived in Paris this afternoon amid more rumours that he has come to make contact with American authorities. The intermediary is said to be Señor Hector Villalon, an Argentinian businessman.

The three-day visit is being described as private but the rumours of a possible contact with the Americans have grown because of the refusal by the Iranian Embassy here to make any comment on Mr Oubadeh's plans or movements.

Mr Oubadeh knows Paris well, having lived here in exile for several years before returning to Iran in February last year with Ayatollah Khomeini. Earlier this week Señor Villalon said he knew about several verbal messages passing between the Iranian and American Governments. His Paris flat was said to have been the meeting place in February for Mr Hamilton Jordan, the White House chief of staff, and Mr Oubadeh who was then on an official visit to France.

This meeting has always been officially denied but Señor Villalon, a former associate of President Perón, made it plain this week that permanent contact between Iran and America had never broken down.

He said that a "mission of good will" had been formed to continue on page 5, col 7

No reprieve for five BBC orchestras

By Kenneth Gosling
The governors of the BBC have endorsed with only a few modifications the management's package of economies aimed at saving £130m over the next two years at the expense of 1,500 jobs.

A statement yesterday after their meeting on Thursday showed that there is to be no reprieve for the five orchestras, including the BBC Scottish Symphony; but there will be a smaller cut in the number of English regional television and in the news and current affairs budget. The governors are to review cuts in the educational budget proposed for Scotland, Ireland, plans to replace inadequate and obsolete studios that had originally been cut have been restored.

Painful cuts still remain, however, and we repeat our readiness to reconsider them if significant offers of financial help are forthcoming, for example for the support of certain orchestras," the statement added.

That is clearly a reference to the considerable public outcry over the decision to disband the Scottish Symphony. Negotiations on the implications of the economies for jobs, which involve a degree of redundancy, have begun with the unions.

"The decisions we have taken," the governors say, "will save money where we believe it will cause the minimum impact on our audience. We shall, therefore, maintain our network television and radio services which are the backbone of our operations, but we reaffirm our commitment to such specific areas of distinctive public service broadcasting as music, education and regional programmes."

Savings of £17m still have to be found after dropping capital projects and making planned cuts.

Full report, page 4

Two Irish soldiers of UN peace force murdered in Lebanon

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem, April 18
The future of the 630-strong Irish battalion of UNifil, the United Nations peace force in Lebanon, has been thrown into question by the murder today of two unarmed Irish soldiers.

The murders came after the death earlier this week of Private Stephen Griffin, aged 21, an Irish soldier from Co Galway, who died in an Israeli hospital after being shot through the head by Christian militia gunmen, who attacked his squad near the disputed village of al-Tiri.

There is some doubt about who is responsible for the latest murders. Sources in south Lebanon say the Irish soldiers were killed by a local family in revenge for an incident last Saturday in al-Tiri, which is in UNifil territory.

That territory, however, is being claimed by Major Saad Haddad, the renegade Lebanese Christian, who commands the militia forces with open Israeli help.

The territory stretches for 60 miles along the top of Israel's northern border. In last week's incident, a UN soldier, two villagers and a militiaman were killed.

Yesterday UN intelligence sources reported that Major Haddad's militia had issued a bizarre threat to the villagers of al-Tiri either to produce the bodies of two dead Irish soldiers by midnight tonight, or incur a forfeit in Lebanese currency, equal to £5,000.

We can only assume that the barbaric threat has been put into practice," a UN official said tonight. "These men were totally unarmed and were simply trying to perform a difficult peace-keeping role in one of the most violent areas of the Middle East."

Today's incident is one of the most vicious to have taken place in south Lebanon since UNifil was sent to restore law and order in the troubled region in summer 1978, soon after the withdrawal of the Israeli invasion force.

Senior UN sources say that the murdered Irish soldiers were part of a squad of three Irishmen who were driving a convoy of two UN observers and two journalists from the Associated Press to relieve an isolated UN observer outpost. The convoy was ambushed by a group of about eight men.

The UN in Jerusalem said tonight: "One of the Irish soldiers was badly wounded when he was shot in the stomach and the leg in the ambush. He died later in the hospital. The other Irish soldier was killed."

The killings follow two weeks of fierce gun and artillery exchanges between militias and UN troops, with the Irish soldiers most heavily involved. It comes only two days after Major Haddad announced that he would use force to expel the Irish battalion from south Lebanon.

In a pointed communique issued last night, UNifil said it had been informed by the Israeli defence forces and Major Haddad's militia that two Irish soldiers had been murdered.

Today's killings are certain to raise serious international diplomatic questions about the behaviour of Major Haddad's 3,000-strong militia force, and the close connections which it has with the Israeli Army. It is well known that the Israelis provide the militia with arms, finance, uniforms and regular strategic advice.

Mr Begin pledges to maintain hard line

From Our Own Correspondent Tel Aviv, April 18
Pessimism about the prospects for next week's new round of intensified talks on Palestinian autonomy increased today when Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, outlined in impassioned detail the key issues on which his Government would never give way.

Arriving at Tel Aviv airport from Washington, Mr Begin spoke for nearly an hour, in Hebrew and then in English, about the uncompromising paper which Israel had presented to President Carter outlining its final position on the aspects of Palestinian autonomy still disputed with Egypt.

In contrast with recent talk of progress by American officials, the Israeli stand indicated that during the Washington meeting there had been no advance on any of the points most fiercely contested between Israel and Egypt.

Mr Begin said that the "greatest achievement" of his visit had been the unifying of American Jews behind his stand on three main topics: refusal to allow the autonomy council more than administrative powers, and refusal to give up overall Israeli security control in the projected autonomous area.

Leaving an impression that there was little room for discussion in the marathon autonomy talks—due to start next week and to reach agreement by May 26—Mr Begin stated that it was an "absolute condition" that Israeli responsibility for security in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip be accepted by Egypt.

He refused to discuss Israel's latest political turmoil, caused by the call of Mr Ezer Weizman, the Defence Minister, for early elections.

Lebanon raid, page 5

Cleaning up for Soviet springtime in space

From Michael Binyon Moscow, April 18
Every year about this time Russians spend one Saturday of their weekends sweeping, scrubbing and cleaning up the streets and buildings fresh for spring. But this year the subbotnik, as this unpaid day of labour is called, is more widespread than usual. It is also going on in space.

Commander Leonid Popov and Mr Valery Ryumin, the engineer, who clambered into the orbiting Soviet space station Salyut 6 last week for another lengthy round of scientific experiments, found that they also had some spring cleaning to do.

Saturday is usually their day off but tomorrow they will be hard at work. "It's not as easy as you think," another cosmonaut, Mr V. Lyakhov explained.

"It's not just a question of going round with a duster. You have to remove all the panels and clean everything inside. You have to get into those nooks and crannies which on earth even the housewife usually avoids doing."

"You have to remove all the dust and rubbish from each ventilator grill and there are plenty of those on the station. You have to go around with a screwdriver and keys and often when you're floating it's very difficult to get a grip."

He told a Soviet newspaper that after such chores a Cosmonaut was usually very tired but he would be after carrying out scientific experiments.

But spring cleaning in space is essential not only to make the ageing laboratory more comfortable but also to ensure its proper functioning.

Here on Earth the chores are just as tedious; chipping away at the packed and dirty ice on the sides of the streets, piling the winter's detritus into heaps, washing floors, cleaning windows, planting flowers and generally brightening up the town.

This year the subbotnik in Moscow is doubly important. The practice began when Lenin picked up a broom and encouraged his fellow revolutionaries to do likewise. Every year the subbotnik is performed in honour of Lenin's birthday, which conveniently falls on April 22. This year marks the 10th anniversary of his birth.

Unfortunately this winter, though not especially harsh, has lingered. It snowed again today and the slush and dirt has taken a long time to remove. Moscow housewives often complain that their enforced voluntary labour is useless because wind and rain vitiate all the good work on Saturday before the piles of rubbish can be removed on Monday.

Meanwhile, up there in space the two cosmonauts look as though they will have plenty of domestic chores even when they have finished their spring cleaning. Mr Ryumin, making his third flight, is back in space after only seven months on Earth and appears to be heading for another space endurance record.

He has apparently decided he does not like the cuisine of his space traveller's diet, who prepared an appetizing meal of curry soup and cutlets last night which he refused, in future they will take turns at cooking.

Setback for liver

ssa Trevisan
April 18
has been yet another setback in the eight-month struggle for President Reagan to the damage to the liver two days ago in and the intestinal aging, which was stopped with age, returned.

s report gives a dejected which is unusual when the practice when situation took a turn worse.

year-old President has very ill for almost three months ago in the opinion was that his reached the point of no return. The past few days he has been unconscious, if not, most of the days ago, the doctors said that his liver was and that he was also from jaundice.

ie past few weeks President has been kept alive by a life-supporting machine as his kidneys failed, pneumonia, checked has not died and high temperature lasted for more than six his heart is robust, but reported by a pacemaker that increasing liver and a feature of jaundice and situation is very serious.

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HOME NEWS

Strikers at BL will decide by Tuesday whether to accept terms laid down by company

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial
Correspondent

BL management will have to wait until Tuesday to learn whether 18,000 striking workers obey the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) recommendation to accept the company's pay and conditions package and resume normal working.

Senior shop stewards from many of the plants involved have been called to the union's Midlands headquarters at West Bromwich on Monday morning to hear the terms of the settlement explained by Mr Brian Mackers regional secretary. The stewards in turn are expected to report to mass meetings later in the day or before work on Tuesday morning.

The picture yesterday was one of total confusion, with a few hundred workers drifting back, some pickets removed, but most strikers insisting that they would do nothing until they received formal notice from the union that it had withdrawn official backing for the dispute.

There are fears that some of the more militant plants will stay out, if only for a few days longer, to demonstrate their disgust at what some shop stewards have described as a "sell-out" by Mr Mostyn (Mose) Evans, general secretary of the TGWU.

Company sources pointed out last night, however, that under the terms of the settle-

ment the company could reinstate its threat to dismiss strikers if they do not report for work on Wednesday. The actual wording is: "Subject to such resumption of normal working, the company undertakes not to place with the action announced on April 16."

If groups of workers choose not to resume normal working it is understood that the company will consider itself free to proceed with dismissals.

The strongest opposition yesterday came from shop stewards at Land Rover, Solihull, and Jaguar, Coventry, who were among the first to strike.

Jaguar could prove to be the most difficult to settle. The issue there is complicated by a local matter deeply resented by about a third of the workforce. Jaguar assembly line workers have traditionally been among the highest paid in the industry because, it was asserted, they had to possess more skill than their opposite numbers assembling less costly and less complicated cars.

The new pay deal, based on five grades, demotes them from grade 5 to grade 3 to bring them into line with all other BL assembly workers.

Sir Michael Edwards's gamble in threatening to dismiss the strikers is now seen in a different light by industrial relations experts at other companies. On Wednesday some of them predicted that he had "gone too far this time".

Last night they admitted that without the dismissal ultimatum BL's negotiators would have gone empty-handed into Thursday's meeting with union general secretaries. Its withdrawal enabled them to make a "last-saving" concession to union leaders without compromising the crucial 5 per cent to 10 per cent pay and working conditions package.

The other "concession" is the 10-day cooling off period before implementing important changes affecting employees, only formally acknowledges something the company had already indicated in private to union leaders.

Production of the Mini resumed at Longbridge yesterday after the lifting of pickets at a warehouse holding buffer stocks of body panels produced at the strike-bound Castle Bromwich plant.

It is hoped that MG sports cars will resume production on Monday, after the removal of pickets at the Dursley Lane, Birmingham, axle plant.

A mass meeting yesterday of workers on strike at the Swindon County area was one of a small majority to stay out and to meet again on Tuesday, by which time it was hoped that the transport union's position would be clearer. Yesterday's meeting had been arranged at the last minute, and the decision to stay out is not significant.

Journalist delegates condemn 'sensational'

From David Felton
Labour Reporter
Portsmouth

Delegates representing 32,000 journalists urged the union leadership yesterday to take disciplinary action against members who assist in the publication of "sensational claptrap".

A motion passed by the National Union of Journalists' annual delegates meeting in Portsmouth, on April 18, expressed the "strong opinion that all the hysterical reactions put at risk the lives of all NUJ members working in Northern Ireland, and press freedom generally".

The debate revolved around filming last October by BBC Panorama a team of Provisional IRA men who had taken over the village of Carrickmore. After the incident there was widespread criticism of the BBC.

The conference decision condemned the consistent failure of the Board of Governors of the BBC to defend their journalists in the face of political attack. It also accused certain national newspapers and news agencies of "biased and distorted reporting and comment".

The union executive was instructed to take disciplinary action under union rules to ensure "that further action of this sort is firmly dealt with".

Delegates complained of inaccurate and sensational reporting of the incident, which centred on allegations that the Panorama team had staged-managed the IRA action, and which led to the BBC dismissing Mr Roger Bolton, editor of Panorama. He was reinstated after threats of industrial action by NUJ members.

Mr Nicholas Ross, a member of the union's London television

branch, told the conference that, if reporting of such a low standard continues, he would be forced to consider the future of journalism and the union.

The conference also passed motions demanding open access by journalists to prisoners in H block at the Maze prison, and to the Ministry of Defence to representatives of the Provisional IRA and other republican organizations.

The conference passed a resolution urging the enactment of the Freedom of Information Bill, now before Parliament, as the first step towards achieving freedom of information laws in the United States and Sweden.

In his presidential address to the conference, Mr Jacob Ecclestone urged the union not to adopt a "Cavendish" attitude to the introduction of new technology. "It is not a question of accepting or resisting new technology. The issue we face is who will control the new technology and for whose benefit," Mr Ecclestone said.

He said he increasingly held the view that traditional newspaper production lines in newspaper production were no help, because they no longer had a basis in technological reality. He called for a greater sense of urgency in approaches to other printing unions, with a view to mergers or amalgamations.

"I do not underestimate the difficulties for us and for others, in trying to bring about mergers. If men and women are to have any hope whatsoever of controlling their working lives in the future, the imaginative leap must be made, the hands must be extended," Mr Ecclestone said.

Mr Ecclestone said that the union's London television

Ballot offer to unions likely in Bill

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, will reject Conservative backbenchers' demands to make ballots on strike action compulsory in the Employment Bill.

Mr Prior said that the bill would require legislation but would save the council about £600,000 of its annual contribution to the Metropolitan Police precept, equivalent to 4p per head.

Dr Jones also sympathized with the decision by Lewisham Council to withhold its police precept from April next year on the ground that the Metropolitan Police, which is responsible only to the Home Secretary and Parliament, was not locally accountable.

He said: "There is considerable dissatisfaction with the level of control over policing in our area, probably similar to that felt in Lewisham. The difference is that Lewisham do not have the same choice. Their decision was to withhold part of their rate to move our into Surrey."

"The National Front march is a precise instance of our problems. That type of heavy police presence means extra costs and reduced coverage in our area. We have to contribute to that, why do not many other places in the Home Counties which are equally remote from central London?"

There are seven other authorities in a similar position to Lewisham. Under the provisions of the People Act, as we understand it, the Front is entitled to require a hall from the Inner London Education Authority," he added. "We have told the Front this but they do not seem to have approached the authority."

Dr Jones also sympathized

Judges need it, Parliament needs it, the Government needs it... Lord Scarman appeals for a Bill of rights

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Resistance in the House of Commons to a Bill of rights for the United Kingdom is based on fear of judicial power, Lord Scarman said in Belfast yesterday. "That fear," he said, "is completely groundless."

Addressing a seminar organized by the Northern Ireland Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights, he stated: "We, the judges, need a basis of principle by which to approach the vital task in the twentieth century of interpreting and applying legislation. If it can be given to us by Parliament, the better."

Lord Scarman, who carried out the inquiry into the 1969 violence in Ulster, was one of

150 delegates who included leading judges and constitutional experts from Britain and the Irish Republic. He gave a warning against the piecemeal incorporation into United Kingdom law of bits of the European convention, whether it was done by statute or by judicial decision. "Northern Ireland provides us with evidence as to the desirability of including within our municipal law not only detailed legislation safeguarding specific human rights, but also the desirability of a comprehensive charter of our rights."

That should be formulated as a Bill of Rights, he said, which would do two things: set minimum standards to be met by Parliament, judges and the executive; and provide a basis of principle by which detailed law might be constructed either by legislation, judicial decision

or a combination of both. He was speaking at the Belfast seminar in the House of Commons. But other civil liberties democratic states of the western world had got on remarkably well with a measure of judicial review, or curb, of the acts of the legislature.

Dr Garret FitzGerald, leader of Fine Gael, the main opposition party in the Irish Republic, called for the establishment of an "independent authority on Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic which could enter without notice premises where interrogations were being carried on. The present system did not give adequate protection and a consequence was that the security forces were left open to false accusations of abuse."

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Councils' concern over police cash

By David Nicholson-Lord

The vote by the Lewisham Borough Council in south London not to pay its precept to the Metropolitan Police from April next year is the latest in a series of moves by local authorities to withhold their police precept.

Representatives of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, which has set up a working party to examine the implications of such a move, said yesterday that the high costs of policing marches and demonstrations in the Greater London Council area were one of the reasons fringe authorities such as Epsom did not receive value for money for their police precept.

Dr Emrys Jones, chairman of Epsom's finance committee, said that the working party of councilors would probably lead an attempt to take Epsom and Ewell into the Surrey police area, which would require legislation but would save the council about £600,000 of its annual contribution to the Metropolitan Police precept, equivalent to 4p per head.

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with the decision by Lewisham Council to withhold its police precept from April next year on the ground that the Metropolitan Police, which is responsible only to the Home Secretary and Parliament, was not locally accountable.

He said: "There is considerable dissatisfaction with the level of control over policing in our area, probably similar to that felt in Lewisham. The difference is that Lewisham do not have the same choice. Their decision was to withhold part of their rate to move our into Surrey."

"The National Front march is a precise instance of our problems. That type of heavy police presence means extra costs and reduced coverage in our area. We have to contribute to that, why do not many other places in the Home Counties which are equally remote from central London?"

There are seven other authorities in a similar position to Lewisham. Under the provisions of the People Act, as we understand it, the Front is entitled to require a hall from the Inner London Education Authority," he added. "We have told the Front this but they do not seem to have approached the authority."

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Labour call for reform 'overstated'

By Our Political Correspondent

First reactions from constituency Labour parties to questions put by the commission of inquiry examining the future of the Labour Party show that the call for constitutional reform is not as strong as some have claimed.

The commission of inquiry, set up by the Labour Party, is examining the future of the party's constitution. It is expected to report in June.

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Paramedics get Jenkin rebuke

By Nicholas Timmins

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ME NEWS

Teachers to be given
1 rises proposed
Clegg commission

Geddes, a Correspondent, says that 170,000 teachers and 11,000 lecturers in England and Wales are to be given 17 to 25 per cent pay rises recommended by the Clegg Commission. The commission, which was set up in 1977, will also recommend an annual 11 per cent rise in the minimum salary for a qualified teacher to £10,000, and a 15 per cent rise for a college lecturer to £15,732. A college lecturer's salary is £10,000 and the minimum starting salary is £4,071 and the maximum £21,243. The commission's recommendations for teachers and lecturers are finalised, but at a meeting of the Burnham committee, the national body for teachers' pay, representatives of the teachers' unions, local authorities and the Government accepted in full the recommendations. Details concerning the new pay scale are expected to be announced next Wednesday by the Burnham committee. In the case of the outstanding rather more sensitive issue after next meeting, the Burnham committee on April 23rd's award must be by some of the unions before it can be made, but Mr Fredrickson, leader of the union, said that he hoped would get the first round money in their pockets.

er issue brings uproar
students' conference

Hodges

Left Alliance and the executive, who opposed support for IRA prisoners; and the ultra left who argued for a human rights campaign about the Armagh women's prison.

A debate on student grants aroused much less controversy and a proposed debate on overseas students' fees did not take place. Northern Ireland was given first priority.

The voting on the Armagh issue was close: 296 in favour, 214 against. Mr Alan Christie, deputy president of the union, said during the debate: "This motion will give credence and support to the Provisionals and everything they stand for."

Government
Olympics
boycott drive
opens

By Our Political Correspondent

It would be "an outrage" for the Union Jack to be paraded around the Olympic arena in Moscow while Soviet dissidents, notably Dr Sakharov, Alexander Ginsberg, Bukovsky, Kuznetsov and Amariik, were being persecuted by the Soviet Government even more vigorously, Mr Norman St John-Stevens, leader of the Commons and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, said last night.

Addressing the Chelmsford Conservative Association on the moral case for staying away from the Moscow Olympics, he was setting the pattern for a series of ministerial speeches intended to persuade the British Olympic athletes to boycott the Moscow games.

Mr St John-Stevens said that neither politics nor sport were morally neutral aspects of life, and sporting activities, like political activities, carried profound moral implications.

"It is vital for the Western countries to show that they have the will to uphold and defend their way of life."

In particular, Britain must make her position clear, as she has for centuries been the foremost in the international community to stand up for the integrity and independence of small nations and the rights of individual human beings.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, while in every way as cruel, ruthless and unprincipled as the invasion of Hungary in 1956 and that of Czechoslovakia in 1968, was different in one essential respect, it said.

"Hungary and Czechoslovakia were countries that were almost universally accepted as existing, for the time being, within the Soviet sphere of influence. Afghanistan was a fully independent neutral country. Thus the Soviet invasion marks a dangerous escalation of aggression, and recently we have heard of Soviet forces massing on the borders of Iran."

In 1936 the participation by most of the independent countries of the world at the Berlin Olympics was, without doubt, a big propaganda boost for the Hitler-Nazi regime.

"It greatly disillusioned those opponents of Nazism who were already being persecuted," Mr St John-Stevens said. "Less than two years after those Olympic Games the Germans were invading Austria and Czechoslovakia. The parallel is too strong to be ignored by those responsible in Britain for taking these decisions."

"Britain's athletes should not go to Moscow."



Mr Peter James, model maker, and Mrs Ann Ritchie, chairman of Bassett-Lowke, with a model Duchess class locomotive that will haul visitors at a reenactment of the 1829 Rainhill trials.

Staff dismissed by union
awarded compensation

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Staff

A claim of unfair dismissal by two former staff at the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers was upheld at the South London Industrial Tribunal yesterday.

The reason for their dismissal, the writing of reports containing criticisms of the union's leadership, was not gross misconduct, but did justify a 30 per cent reduction in compensation, the tribunal ruled.

Mr Alan Hughes, an educational administrator, and Mr Trevor Eward, an assistant in the union's research and technical department, were dismissed in February for compiling material hostile to the union's moderate leaders.

It is understood that each has been awarded compensation of about £1,000, although an exact figure has yet to be worked out.

Sir John Boyd, general secretary of the union, told the tribunal that he had discovered the articles being typed by a secretary in the head office typing pool. One was entitled *Engineering Claim, The Betrayal* and another was a two-page document, part of a longer one, which began: "In future lorry drivers will be able to picket."

Sir John said there had been

concern that articles appearing in trade union publications emanating from branches of the Communist Party, versions of that philosophy, had been based on sources from inside the union's headquarters.

Mr Eward had told him that he had written the document in his own time at the request of Mr Hughes.

Mr Hughes confirmed Mr Eward's explanation and said that he had written the other article, on the engineering claim, for Mr Robert Wright, the union's assistant general secretary.

Sir John said Mr Wright told him the articles were not for publication but for his scrapbook from which he might eventually write a book.

Sir John said that the executive "could not disagree" with his decision that the two employees should be dismissed.

Sir John said that any action on Mr Wright, an elected officer of the union, would be considered after the union's national and rules revisions committee meetings which end in five weeks' time.

Mr Eward told the tribunal that there was no intention to publish the document in order to discredit the democratically elected leadership in the eyes of the membership.

Number of new immigrants
to Britain drops by 4%

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A fall of 4 per cent to 69,650 in the number of Commonwealth citizens and foreign nationals accepted for settlement in the United Kingdom last year was reported yesterday in *Control of Immigration Statistics United Kingdom 1979*. The figure in 1978 was 72,350.

Last year's total included 33,100 Commonwealth citizens, of whom 25 per cent were citizens of India, 12 per cent of Pakistan, 10 per cent of Bangladesh, 10 per cent of Australia and 12 per cent of the United Kingdom passport holders. Also accepted were 10,950 nationals of Pakistan.

Total acceptances for settlement on arrival for all nationalities in 1979 were 33,350, compared with 34,000 in 1978, a decrease of 2 per cent. The number of foreign nationals (excluding citizens of Pakistan) accepted increased from nearly 3,750 in 1978 to 6,800 in 1979, almost entirely because of 2,900 refugees from Southeast Asia.

Fewer were accepted from each of the countries in the India sub-continent, contributing to a total of 14,900 from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh in 1979, 12 per cent lower than in 1978. The number of United Kingdom passport holders fell by a quarter from 4,600 to 3,450.

The 35,300 acceptances for settlement on removal of time limit showed a fall of 5 per cent on the 1978 figure, entirely caused by a 14 per cent decrease in the number of Commonwealth citizens: at 14,750, it was only partly offset by a small increase, to 21,550, in the number of foreign nationals accepted.

Control of Immigration Statistics United Kingdom 1979, Cmd 7875. (Stationery Office, 14.25.)

Lambeth protest: A protest on behalf of black people in Lambeth, south London, to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, says that cuts in the housing improvement programme mean the end of hope of any decent housing for them.

For Lambeth, which contains some of the most deprived people in Britain, the cuts will probably mean the end of any work that is not under contract, according to the Council for Community Relations in Lambeth.

"In terms of the level of provision of council housing in Lambeth, this is nothing short of a disaster," it says in a letter to Mr Heseltine.

The letter says that more than 700 new houses planned for this year were unlikely to be built.

GLC plans
mortgage
rate at 13%
on July 1

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Greater London Council's mortgage rate will be increased from 11 to 13 per cent from July 1 if a recommendation to the policy and resources committee is accepted.

It would still be 2 per cent lower than the building society rate. The council said it was obliged to make an increase because of the higher cost of its borrowing and to stay within the minimum interest rate permitted.

Mr Richard Brew, leader of the committee, said yesterday that he regretted the increase. The 13 per cent rise would add £2.50 a week, after tax relief, to the average £15,000 mortgage. It would apply to all new borrowers and about one-third of the GLC's existing borrowers, the remainder having fixed-rate mortgages.

The last increase was on January 1, when the rate went up by 1 per cent.

The council said it was disappointed that no further applications for home loans could be considered this year because of Government cuts to the housing programme.

House raided in
police hunt for
killers of Libyan

From Our Correspondent

Reading. A man leapt from a first-floor window as armed detectives hunting the killers of a Libyan journalist in London last week raided a house in Beaufield Close, Woodley, Reading, yesterday.

Police had kept watch overnight on the house, and moved in at 8.30 am.

The raid was led by Det Chief Supt James Dewhurst, of Thames Valley police, with a search warrant under the Firearms Act. About 40 officers were in the surrounding area at the time.

Police said: "We were acting on information received from Scotland Yard anti-terrorist squad. A man wanted for questioning in connection with the death of the Libyan journalist, Mohammad Ramadan, was living at the house."

He said a man was treated at Reading Barile Hospital for leg injuries and was later being questioned by special branch officers.

Visa difficulty: A number of British businessmen have reported difficulties in obtaining visas to travel to Libya. The Foreign Office confirmed yesterday (the Press Association reports).

If you find an advertisement unacceptable, don't turn the page: turn to us.

Billions of advertisements appear every year in our newspapers, magazines, on posters, and in the cinema. All but a small number are legal, honest and truthful. They comply with the British Code of Advertising—a set of rules governing all print and cinema advertising. To give you an idea of the sort of detail the Code contains, here is one of its clauses:

1.4.1 All descriptions, claims and comparisons which relate to matters of fact should be capable of substantiation.

If you come across one of the few offending advertisements, we, the Advertising Standards Authority, would like to hear about it. It's our job to protect consumers and to keep advertising up to standard. One of our aims is to make sure that consumers know how to complain if they need to.

What is the ASA?

The ASA is an independent body. Although it is financed by the advertising industry (who are, incidentally, as interested as is the consumer in banning unacceptable advertising), it works independently of the industry. It has to be independent to be fair and unbiased about consumers' complaints.

For this reason, the Chairman is independent and so are the majority of council members. For instance, in the last year we have had a consumerist, a Lordist Minister and a Member of the House of Lords on the Council. Under the Council's supervision, a full-time secretariat works to make sure the Code is being adhered to by the advertising industry. And that decisions by the ASA are being enforced.

What happens to an advertiser who breaks the Code?

If we believe the consumer's complaint is valid, we contact the advertiser. He will be instructed to remove the advertisement or amend it accordingly.

Because advertisers know we have teeth, the system works very quickly and effectively.

It also has the blessing of the owners of the vast majority of the country's newspapers, magazines, poster sites and cinemas, who don't hesitate to withdraw an advertisement which contravenes the Code and who would not run an advertisement which we have banned. (By the way, TV and radio advertising are dealt with by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.)

Does the ASA
keep up with changing attitudes in society?

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ERSEAS

Mr Reagan displays ability to play a crowd scene

trick Brogan April 18
woman in the Italian put it: "I keep trying shopping, but there's television camera in every candidate's sylvia primary visit. et. and disrupts ordi- ness.

onald Reagan cam- es strenuously than men such as Senator Kennedy. He is after ar older but he shows enthusiasm at each of or five events he t in every day, makes ches with the same and shows little fan-

ing into Philadelphia in, from the South, peech at a fund rais- went to the Italian pent an hour answer- tions at the World ouncil, gave a couple television interviews, other speech to a n dinner and flew e evening to New

alian market runs narrow street. It is Italian and it was 1976, that Senator ickson, followed by igatory crowd of shock headed in one ops and on leaving, friendly: "Hosta in the Italian shop-

son's campaign for any did not survive vania primary. gan, though perhaps intellectual than Mr an at least keep his straight. To remind e he was as he s way up the street eeking mass of eporters, secret e members of his a few shoppers, a hand gallantly Italian song over gain, adding a little

often it gave us a played "California, me" and "Danny nt at the candidate's sidence and antec-

re not many people rably because it old, Mr Reagan was d did not mind the e were quite enough pppers and shop- provide an anti- dence in the nar- and playing a crowd e of his many skills. ere conscious that

Anderson may run for dency as independent

Cross April 18
Anderson, the member of the representatives from one of the three survivors of his test for the presi- dency, is expected that he will run White House as an

reviews with the Post and New York ished here today, he clear that he was ngly towards an- is candidacy as an t. "It is not my ay games", he said, ding has been done. question of whether hing that suddenly ough my mind (tel- it to it).

erson, whose snow makes him look older than his 58 he would announce decision next week day's primary in is.

it competing against Reagan, the front d Mr George Bush, ector of the CIA, but he clearly feels e more useful to his to wait until after ylvania results are

nowledges that an e secure the west- a independent would s shot" although he serious about his ion to win. "You

cal parties l from da election Correspondent

April 18
s National Consul- nci has rejected ellow individual polit- ies, including the 'people's Congress of t. Oboto, the former to take part in the ary and presidential to be held in

majority vote, against porters of the Peo- gress and the mainy Catholic Democratic e council endorsed Binala's recommen- ad all candidates and representatives anda National Libera-

ort was formed early by supporters of the 'people's Congress, the e Party, and other hich were banned in der President Amin.

ng, who has been in Tanzania since being in 1971, had to return to lead his campaign in the elec- first to be held since ecame independent in is not yet known e will return to cam- Front supporter.

they were being used as extras for a 15-30-second televi- sion spot to be fed into a slightly longer report by some distinguished television re- porter, but took no exception to their role. They enjoyed every moment, and many of them will probably vote for Mr Reagan at the first oppor- tunity.

That may be in November, in the elections. There are few registered Republicans in Little Italy able to vote for him in the primary on Tuesday. Mr Kennedy and Vice-President Mondale will have visited them by then.

There was a strong Republi- can crowd at the World Affairs Council and Mr Reagan, quizzically remarking that he would not make a speech because they were all standing, answered questions instead.

They cheered him when he said that the way to stop inflation was to stop printing money and to cut taxes by a third and proposed that in- terest from savings accounts should be tax free. He said the security system was dead, was the first mounted dollars under funded" and must be put on a sound basis.

Most of the questions were about domestic affairs. In his speech to the Republican com- mittee of Philadelphia that evening, Mr Reagan dealt with foreign affairs. He told them that he wanted there to be "no more Taiwans, no more Viet- nams, no more abandonment of our allies".

"Never again", he said, "must we allow the immorality of asking our young men to fight and die in a war with one hand tied behind their backs because their govern- ment is afraid to let them win."

Then, with a joke about his enforced habit of eating his meals out of paper bags, he set off for North Dakota.

Mr Reagan expects to win here but has devoted little time and money to the primary. He has already spent most of the money permitted by federal law for the primary campaign. With nearly half of them still to come, he is watching the pennies.

Mr George Bush on the other hand, who has still plenty of money but few hopes, is spending \$1m (£450,000) here, most of it on television advertising.

Mr Reagan put in one day's campaigning, in person, getting a television time and will be back on Sunday for another visit.

It will probably be enough.

can't get into it with the idea of a heavily carrying a message alternative" one of his advisers told him and he agrees.

His decision would be based principally on the feeling that in the present crisis of confidence at home and abroad, the United States needs a non-partisan Government of national unity grouping the best people from both main political parties to resolve existing problems and give the American public the sense of a new beginning.

During his campaign as a Republican contestant, he has fared well in several states by appealing to independents and liberal Republicans under the campaign theme "the Anderson difference". His main point has been to emphasize that there are no politically popular easy answers to the economic and foreign policy.

His assessment that his candi- dacy as an independent would be "a long shot" is universally shared by his supporters and political analysts alike.

The closest an independent has come to winning the presi- dency this century was Mr Theodore Roosevelt in 1912, when he won 28 per cent of the popular vote as a "pro- gressive".

He had the advantage of being a former Republican president. So far, although he has become the darling of the eastern establishment press, Mr Anderson has failed even to win a single Republican primary.

Mr Njonjo to be Kenya poll candidate

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, April 18
Mr Charles Njonjo, Kenya's Attorney-General since inde- pendence in 1963, today announced that he had resigned and would contest a parliamentary by-election. The seat became vacant after the sudden resignation of a member who was elected in last November's general election.

Mr Njonjo is probably the most powerful figure in Ken- yan politics. He has been the strongest supporter of Presi- dent Moi, and was instrumental in heading off moves designed to prevent Mr Moi, who was then Vice-President, from suc- ceeding to the presidency on the death of President Ken- yatta in 1978.

Mr Njonjo said today that he had reached the retiring age of 60 and had chosen to give up his post. His announce- ment came shortly after Mr Amos Ngunjiri had announced his resignation as MP for Kikuyu, which is Mr Njonjo's home area.

Asked at a press conference today if he would later stand for the presidency, Mr Njonjo replied: "There is no vacan- cy" Asked if he expected to be made a minister, he said: "Whatever the offer, I will gladly accept."

Mr Begin defends raid into Lebanon

From Christopher Walker Tel Aviv, April 18

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, today strongly defended last night's raid by Israeli commandos on a Palestinian guerrilla base 30 miles inside Lebanon but refused to say whether his government had reverted to making regular cross-border retaliatory attacks against the Palestinians.

Speaking to reporters on his return from Washington, Mr Begin said: "We have to defend ourselves. You know what happened at Misgham Av. We had information that from that base they would come again to us and try to kill men, women and children, and take them hostage."

Mr Begin, who had already been briefed on the controversy, said: "So instead of waiting until they came to carry out their bloody designs, our army went to meet them."

The night raid, which according to the Palestine Liberation Organization left 18 people dead, was the first mounted inside Lebanon for nearly a year.

It is well known that Israeli security forces have detailed in- telligence about many Palestin- ian bases inside Lebanon and know of many more potential targets if retaliatory attacks are to be resumed.

According to the Israeli Army, at least six Palestinians were killed in the attack, which was mounted from the sea shortly after midnight yester- day. An official spokesman said that two soldiers were wounded in the fighting, during which a number of buildings were blown up. Local people claimed that Israeli missile boats had also shelled the shore.

The Israeli Army said the Palestinian camp, situated near the sea outside the town of Sarafand, was an important guerrilla training area and staging post.

In Israeli political circles, there was little doubt that the raid had been mounted in re- taliation for the Palestinian attack 11 days ago on Misgham Av, a remote border kibbutz in Galilee, in which three Israelis were killed, and 16 wounded.

Israelis arrest man over diamond robbery

Tel Aviv, April 18.—Police arrested a 30-year-old man to- night in connection with the theft of diamonds worth an estimated £2m from the Israel Diamond Exchange.

The suspect denied he com- mitted the robbery and the diamonds were not recovered. But police said the authorities were searching the diamond complex on the outskirts of Tel Aviv for the gems and added: "We are 80 per cent sure he is the man."

There were no injuries in the incident. A police spokes- man said that the robbery took place shortly before 1 pm, when one man armed with a pistol and hand grenade entered the thirteenth floor office of Mr Menachem Herskovits, a diamond mer- chant, and tied up the three men inside.—AP.

Man accused of attacking Indian Premier is stabbed

From Richard Wigg Delhi, April 18
Mr Rajiv Lalwani, who is charged with attempting to assassinate Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, in a knife attack was himself stabbed last night in a hospital in Baroda, Gujarat, by another patient.

The attacker, who was shout- ing: "Long live Mother In- dia", was overpowered by Mr Lalwani's police guards.

Mr Lalwani, aged 37, a tex- tile worker, was only slightly injured, the police said. After treatment his condition was said to be not serious.

He had been taken by the police last night to the hospital for medical tests ordered ear- lier in the day by Delhi magistrates. A lawyer for Mr Lalwani had protested about his client's prolonged police in- terrogation since Monday.

Hospital doctors found that

Mr Lalwani was suffering from jaundice and a damaged spleen, but they did not indi- cate how this condition had arisen.

The knife attack came after Mr Lalwani was admitted to the hospital for treatment. The attacker, named by the police as Mr Khabdas Parmar, was taken into police custody.

A Baroda magistrate, mean- while, ordered the town's deputy mayor and four other men in custody until Thursday. An alleged confession by Mr Lalwani was said to have im- plicated them as fellow con- spirators in a plot to assassinate the Prime Minister.

The Baroda magistrate in- stituted the Delhi police to have Mr Lalwani examined by a psychiatrist. The magistrate said he had "serious doubts" about Mr Lalwani's mental state.

Ex-President freed

Niamye, April 18.—Mr Hamani Diori, the former President of Niger, in deten- tion since the Army seized power six years ago, has been freed, officials said.

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Vila, New Hebrides, April 18.—The South Pacific islands of the New Hebrides have chosen July 30 as Independence Day, ending 52 years of joint colonial rule by Britain and France.



Some of the 54 Cuban refugees showing relief after arriving in Madrid from Havana yesterday.

Cuban curb on airlift of refugees

By Our Foreign Staff

Cuba today called off the "freedom bridge" airlift to the Costa Rica capital of San Jose for thousands of dissidents who had fled from now on the Cubans at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana would have to go directly to their final destinations. Western diplomatic sources said.

News of the surprise change, which will cause further delays for the troubled evacuation, came as a Spanish-owned Span- ish Airlines DCS flew 188 refu- gees from Havana to San Jose. Senior Carlos Aguilar, the Costa Rican official in charge of the

evacuation, said Señor Raul Alarcon, the Cuban Foreign Minister, had given him the news during a seven-hour con- versation.

Western diplomatic sources said the Havana Government now wants all dissidents to be flown directly to the nations that have offered to accept them.

No reason was given for the Cuban move though the diplo- matic sources said earlier that President Castro appeared to be trying to interfere with the evacuation to discourage other dissidents from trying to leave Cuba.

A Spanish airliner left Havana loaded with refugees after a 12-hour delay apparently caused by scuffling between refugees and Castro Guards at Jose Mari Airport, in Havana, officials said.

Diplomatic Sources said Oscar Vargas, the Costa Rican consul who was escorting the

refugees was pushed through a plate glass window during the Meles but "was not seriously injured."

Most of the refugees who left the island since the "bridge to freedom" airlift began on Tues- day say pro-Castro Cubans pushed them, punched them and shouted insults as they left Havana.

A group of 54 refugees arrived in Madrid yesterday to shouts of "Freedom, freedom", and "Long live Spain".

They were given an emo- tional welcome at Madrid air- port by several hundred Cubans who already live in Spain.

In Lima, another 97 Cubans were met by Señor Arturo Garcia Y Garcia, the Peruvian Foreign Minister, when they arrived at Lima airport from San Jose, the Costa Rican capital.

The two groups were among the 504 Cubans who flew from

ally of the United States and as a firm supporter of inter- national law, the British Gov- ernment, while wishing Iran and the Iranian people well, is nevertheless bound to do all it can to help try to bring the crisis to an end through the early, safe release of those de- tained in the American Embassy."

Carter warning: President Carter's warning that the "only next step" available to the United States to secure the release of the hostages would be some kind of military action is partly intended to put pressure on the allies to approve economic and diplomatic sanc- tions against Iran. (David Cross reports from Washington).

At a press conference yester- day, Mr Carter announced a series of new economic sanc- tions, including a ban on Iranian imports to the United States and restrictions on travel by Americans to Iran.

"If this additional set of sanc- tions... and the concerted action of our allies is not suc- cessful, then the only next step available to me as president would be some sort of military action," he said.

Kurdish fighting: Heavy fight- ing between the Iranian Army and Kurdish guerrillas broke out today in the town of Saqqez. The clashes seemed to be partly linked with the recent tension between Iran and Iraq.—Reuter

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Tehran move to curb student power after wave of campus takeovers

From Tony Allaway Tehran, April 18

Iranian leaders today launched an official campaign to purge the country's univer- sities and colleges of radical student groups. The ruling Revolutionary Council told the groups to remove their offices and headquarters from all cam- puses by Monday night.

"If they do not do this the Revolutionary Council, with the President and people, will be obliged to go to the universities themselves and remove them", it said.

The move was announced after the council this morning met Ayatollah Khomeini to dis- cuss a wave of university take- overs by Islamic student groups. There are strong indications that the groups, which are demanding an Islamic purge of the institutions, are being organized by supporters of the 50 Ameri- can embassy hostages.

They have the backing of the powerful, clergy-domi- nated Islamic Republican Party (IRP), in what is seen as a move to deprive the Marxist Fedayeen Khalq and the radical Islamic Mujahadeen Khalq guerrilla groups of their most fruitful bases for recruiting and organ- ization.

The takeovers started in the city of Tabriz in the north- west last Monday, but in the past few days several institu- tions of higher education in Tehran have also been seized.

Today's prayer ceremony at Tehran University, attended by tens of thousands of worship- ers, was the signal for the de facto takeover of the campus, a key centre of the struggle against the former Shah.

Ayatollah Khomeini, Ali Khamenei, promising to "kick out the leftists" told the crowd: "If necessary, in the next 48 hours we will use the great force of the masses against them."

The crowd poured out of the university afterwards shouting: "Khomeini, Khomeini, univer- sities must be Islamized".

At least one prominent clergyman has said that uni- versities should be closed for a year while students and teach- ing staff are purged and new Islamic teaching introduced.

The Revolutionary Council decision today was seen as a compromise.

On the issue of the latest United States sanctions, Presi- dent Abolhasan Bani-Sadr emerged with this morning's meeting with Ayatollah Khomeini and said: "Carter will naturally do all he can... we must prepare to resist".

Sir John Graham, the British Ambassador, warned Iran today of the "potentially very grave situation" posed by the con- tinuing hostage crisis.

After returning to Tehran from consultations in White- hall, Sir John said in a state- ment: "Both as a friend and

ally of the United States and as a firm supporter of inter- national law, the British Gov- ernment, while wishing Iran and the Iranian people well, is nevertheless bound to do all it can to help try to bring the crisis to an end through the early, safe release of those de- tained in the American Embassy."

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Soviet toll of 8,000 in Afghanistan US says

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, April 18

The United States estimates that about 8,000 Soviet troops have been killed or wounded since the Soviet Union occupied Afghanistan, four months ago.

The State Department said yesterday that most of the casualties had occurred during operations in the countryside against Afghan rebels. It appeared that some Soviet soldiers had been treated viciously by the rebels and mutilations of bodies had been reported. "It is an unpleasant way to die," the spokesman said.

The State Department also disclosed that the Soviet Union has 85,000 troops in Afghanistan and another 25,000 at staging posts on the border. About 100,000 Afghans have fled to Pakistan and many others to Iran.

In recent weeks the State Department and other American government departments have been providing correspondents here with their latest informa- tion on developments in Afghanistan. American re- porters, like those from most other Western countries, are no longer able to enter Afghan- istan to discover what is hap- pening.

There has been no evidence that the Carter Administration has exaggerated the difficulties being encountered by the occupying Soviet troops but after the grandiose claim made by American spokesmen during the Vietnam war about North Vietnamese and Vietcong casualties, the news media here are treating the estimates with some caution.

Deaths at shrine: Heavy fight- ing was reported at several places of Kanduz province in north-east Afghanistan between Soviet troops and Muslim rebels after Soviet troops attacked a Muslim shrine and killed 15 people, rebel sources in Peshe- var said today. (Agence France- Presse).

Eight dissidents jailed in Taiwan over riot

Taipei, April 18.—Eight executives of the defunct politi- cal magazine Formosa were sentenced to jail terms ranging from 12 years to life, the Taiwan Garrison Command announced today.

The eight were charged with sedition or plotting the violent overthrow of the Nationalist Chinese Government during a riot in the southern city of Kaohsiung last December.

The defendants were tried before a court martial in March. None of them admitted the charges.

A Garrison Command spokesman said that Shih Ming-teh, aged 39, one of the key figures in the sedition case, was sentenced to life imprisonment. Huang Hsin- chien, aged 52, whose immu- nity as a parliamentarian was, was sentenced to 12 years, while six others received 12-year sentences. The six were Yao Chia-wei, aged 39, Lin Yi- hsiung, aged 39, Chang Chun- hung, aged 42, Lin Hung- huan, aged 38, Miss Lu Hsin- tien, aged 36, and Miss Chen Chu, aged 30.—AP. Agence France-Presse.

The nine-day trial of the eight dissidents was the most open in Taiwan's history, in terms of publicly airing the defendants' views on such pre- viously taboo subjects as Taiwa- nese independence.

Gandhi denial of hard line on US arms for Pakistan

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, April 18
Mrs Indira Gandhi today denied that India adopted a hard line on the question of American military supplies to neighbouring Pakistan.

She was answering questions with President Zia-ul-Haq at Salisbury hotel where both have been staying during the Zimbabwe independence cele- brations.

"We talked about Pakistan's military needs and we under- stand their position better now", she said. President Zia, who was standing beside her, gave a short laugh when she spoke about American military supplies to Pakistan, an issue which has over- shadowed American policy towards the Indian subconti- nent for some years.

Today's meeting was the first between the two leaders since

the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war which led to the creation of Bangladesh on the Pakistan.

The talks appeared to have been cordial and centred on relations between India and Pakistan as well as the crisis in Afghanistan. It was clear, how- ever, that President Zia had failed to convince Mrs Gandhi to adopt a harder line against the Soviet invasion of Afghan- istan, Mrs Gandhi said there was nothing new to say. Our common factor is that we want to see the crisis resolved."

President Zia told a press conference yesterday that he hoped to win Indian support for a tougher stance against the Soviet invasion of Afghan- istan. It appears that the Indian leader prefers to try for a diplomatic solution rather than through overt support for the anti-Soviet Afghan insur- gents.

Japanese call to Western nations to close ranks

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, April 18
The Soviet Union's interven- tion in Afghanistan has prompted the Japanese Govern- ment to increase its financial contributions towards the main- tenance of a United States mili- tary force in Japan to the maximum level, Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the Prime Minister, said here yesterday.

The Japanese leader also announced that Japan intends to spend more on strengthening its own armed forces. It was keeping in mind recent inter- national developments, efforts by the United States and West European countries and Japan's own fiscal and economic cir- cumstances.

He told foreign correspond- ents: "We also intend to raise our Treasury

Saturday Review

(Tues 29 Aug 2 am)
Berlin, the city's lights, dwelled behind them, and Peter and Tom drove on through semi-rural, rather boring little communities, where nearly all the café lights were off now. Their direction was north. Eric had decided to stay at home, which was just as well, because Tom couldn't imagine what good he could have done by coming, and if the kidnappers saw a third man in Peter's car, they might suspect a police officer.

"Now—this is the beginning of Lübars," Peter said after some 40 minutes of driving. "Now I go to the correct street and we shall have a look." He sat up straight, as if he had an important job to do. He had drawn a little sketch, which he had shown Tom in Eric's flat, and which now lay above his dashboard.

"I think I have taken an unright road. Verdammt! But it does not matter, as we have plenty of time. It is only 35 minutes past three," Peter took a small torch from the shelf over his dashboard, and focused it on his sketch. "I know what I did. I must turn."

As Peter turned, his headlights illuminated a dark field of cabbages or lettuce in rows, burrowing the earth down with their neat green dots. Tom readjusted the thick suitcase between his feet and knees. The night was pleasantly cool, and there seemed to be no moon.

"Sure—this is the Zebell-Krüger-Damm again, and I should go left up here. They go to bed so early here—get up early too!—Alt-Lübars, yes." Peter made a careful left turn. "Up here to the right should be the village green," Peter said softly in German, "according to my little map at home. Church and so on. And do you see those lights ahead?" His voice took on a rise of tension that Tom had not heard before. "That is the Wall."

Tom saw a fuzzy, whitish-yellow glow ahead, low and long, a bit lower than the road level, the searchlights on the other side of the Wall. The road sloped a little downward. Tom looked around for other cars, another car, but all was black except for a couple of perhaps obligatory street lights in the direction of what Peter had called the village green.

Now Peter's car barely crept. The kidnappers, as far as Tom could see, had not arrived as yet.

"This little road is not for cars, which is why I am going so slowly. Now we should see the—Lagerhalle on the left. There, maybe?"

The shed, Tom saw it, a low structure, longer than it was high, and it appeared to be open on the side facing the road. Tom could vaguely see a few structures that might be horse paddocks in a field to the right. Peter stopped by the shed.

"Go ahead. Put the suitcase behind the shed. Then we'll back out," said Peter in German. "I cannot turn here." Peter had dimmed his lights.

Tom was ready to get out. "You go ahead and back off! I'll stay, I'll make a back to Berlin, don't worry."

"What do you mean, 'stay'?"

"Say, I have a sudden inspiration."

"Do you want to meet that gang?" Peter's hands twisted on the steering wheel. "Fight them? Don't be crazy, Tom!"

Tom said in English, "I know you have a gun. Can I borrow it?"

"Sure, sure, but I can't let you take it—Peter looked puzzled, pushed the knob of his glove compartment, and took a black gun from under a cloth. "It is loaded. Six shots. Safety here."

Tom took the gun. It was smallish and did not weigh much, but looked lethal enough. "Thank you," Tom put it in the right side pocket of his jacket, then peered at his watch. Three forty-three. He saw Peter glance nervously at the clock in the dashboard which was over his head. "Look, Tom. You see that little light of land over there?" Peter pointed behind them and to the right, toward the village green. "Where the church is, shall wait for you there. With my light out," Peter said, it like a command, as if he had compromised enough by letting Tom take his gun.

"Don't wait. There's even a bus running all night on this Krüger-Damm, you told me." Tom opened the door and took the suitcase out.

"I just mentioned the bus, I didn't mean for you to take it," Peter whispered. "Don't shoot at them! They will only shoot back and kill you!" Tom closed Peter's door as softly as he could, and headed for the shed.

"This!" Peter whispered through his window. He was heading Tom his small town. "Thanks, my friend!" The rough was certainly a help, because the ground was rough. Tom felt he had left Peter bereft of gun and torch. Tom clicked off the little torch when he was behind the back corner of the shed, and lifted his arm to Peter in a sign of farewell, which Peter could see, him not Peter backed, slowly and straight, on the dirt road that Peter surely could not see well if at all with his parking lights. Tom saw Peter's car reach Alt-Lübars,

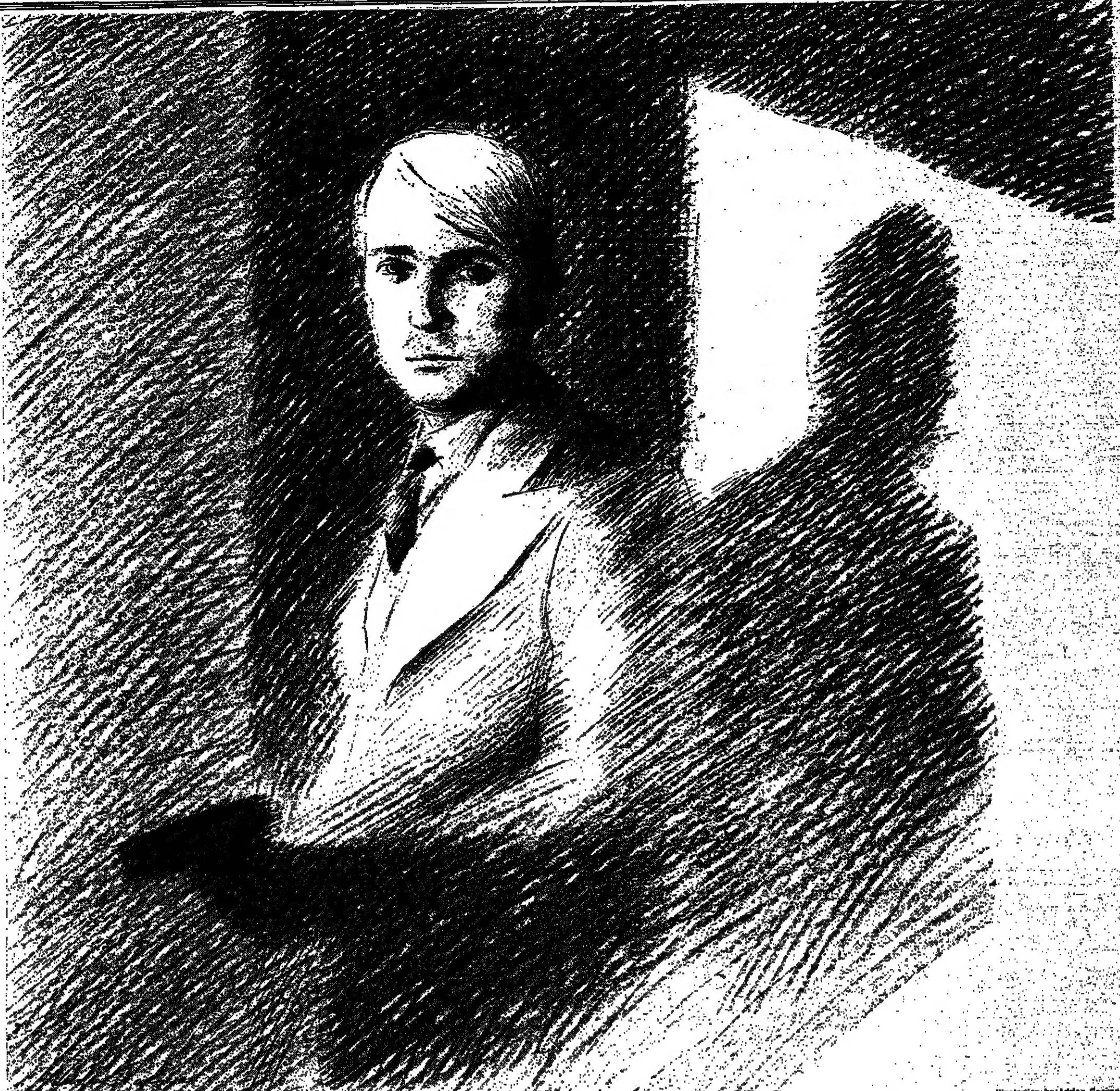


Illustration by Adrian George

Assignment in Berlin

by Patricia Highsmith

then turn slowly to Tom's left, headed for the village green. Peter was going to wait.

Now there was a faint, but very faint sign of dawn coming, though Lübars' sparse street lights remained on. Peter's car was not in sight. Tom heard distant dog barks, and realized with a slight chill that they were the barks of the East German attack dogs beyond the Wall. The dogs did not sound excited. A breeze blew from the Wall's direction, and perhaps he had heard merely a bit of dog conversation as the animals slid along their wires. Tom turned his eyes from the eerie glow of the Wall's searchlights, and concentrated on listening.

He listened for the sound of a car motor. Surely the collector of the money would not come via the field behind him?

Tom had set the suitcase against the wooden back of the shed, and he shoved it gently even closer with his foot. He took Peter's gun from his jacket pocket, pushed the safety off, and stuck it back in his pocket. Silence. It was so silent, Tom felt he could have heard the breathing of any person who might be in the shed on the other side of the boards. Tom felt the wooden planks with his fingertips. There were a few chinks in the rough wood.

He had to pee, and it reminded him of Frank in Grünwald, but he went ahead and relieved himself anyway, while he could. And what did he want? Why was he staying here? To get a look at the kidnappers again? In this darkness? To scare them off and save the money? Certainly not. To save Frank? His stay-

ing was not necessarily a help in that direction, maybe just the opposite.

Tom realized that he hated the kidnappers, and that he would relish a blow back at them. He also knew this was illogical, since he would probably be outnumbered. Yet here he was, vulnerable, an easy target for a bullet, and it would be an easy getaway for the kidnappers too, most likely.

Tom straightened up at the sound of a car's motor from the Alt-Lübars direction. Or was it Peter departing? The car purred forward, however. Tom could see its dim parking lights. Very slowly the car entered the unpaved road on which the shed stood, and tumbled on, swaying with the lane's irregularities. The car stopped about 10 yards to Tom's right. The car looked to be dark red, but Tom was not sure. Tom was now pressed against the back of the shed, and peering around the back corner, because the car's lights did not reach the shed.

The left side back door of the car opened, and one figure got out. The car's lights went out switched on a torch. He looked sturdy and not tall, and he walked on with assurance, but slowed when he left the road and stepped onto the field. Then he paused, and waved a hand at his chums in the car, as if to say that all looked well so far.

How many were in the car, Tom wondered? One? Two? Maybe there were two others, since the man had got out of a back seat.

The man approached the shed slowly, torch in his left hand, and his right hand moved to his trousers pocket and pulled out what might

have been a gun. He came on to Tom's right, toward the back of the shed.

Tom picked up the suitcase and gripped its handle, and as the man rounded the corner, Tom swung the suitcase and caught him on the left side of his head with it. The impact made not a loud thud but a solid one, and there was a second bump as the man's head hit the back of the shed. Tom brought the suitcase down once more, aiming at the left side of the man's head as he was falling.

The paleness of the shirt-collar above what might have been a black sweater guided Tom as he brought the butt of Peter's gun down on the man's left temple. Now the man was not stirring, nor had he cried out. The torch beamed to Tom's left on the ground. Tom gripped Peter's gun in a firing position and pointed it upward.

"Got the swine!" Tom yelled hysterically, or maybe, "Gott, das Schwein!" and at the same time he fired two shots into the air.

Tom yelled again, shouted another phrase of nonsense, maybe a curse, and kicked the sheds' back. He realized that his voice had gone shrill, that he was yelling at nothing. Behind the Wall the dogs yelped, excited by the shots.

The click of a car's door closing startled Tom as if he had been shot himself. He looked around the shed's corner just in time to see a man in the driver's seat draw his leg in. The interior light had been on for a moment. This door then closed, and without parking lights, the car moved backwards to Tom's right, and the parking lights came on. The car backed to the left in Alt-Lübars, then went off at

faster speed toward the bigger avenue.

The kidnappers were abandoning their chum. They could do of course afford to abandon him and even the money just now, because they still had Frank Pierson. They had probably thought it a police trick, with no money on the scene. Tom breathed through his mouth, as if he had been in a fight. He pushed the safety on to Peter's gun, stuck it in his right trousers pocket, picked up the fallen torch and shone it for a couple of seconds on the man on the ground. His left temple looked all blood, was perhaps crushed, and to Tom he looked indeed like the Grünwald Italian type, though now his moustache was gone.

Search his pockets? With the torch still on, Tom felt quickly in the one back pocket of the man's black trousers, found nothing, then with difficulty reached into the left front pocket, which yielded a box of matches, a couple of coins and a key which looked like a house key. Tom pocketed the key quickly and almost absently and avoided looking at the red splotch of the man's temple and face, which was making him feel faint, or so he thought. The right front pocket felt flat and empty. Tom took the man's gun from the corner of the suitcase, and ripped the suitcase shut again. He rubbed the torch against his trousers, cut it off, and dropped it on the ground.

Ten Tom made his way to the road without putting on Peter's small torch—tripping once badly—and walked toward Alt-Lübars, backed by the yelps of attack dogs. Tom didn't as yet see anyone who had ventured out of his house

to investigate the show, so he dared to put on the little torch for a second or two at a time so he could see his footing.

Once at Alt-Lübars, he did not need the torch as the road was smoother. Tom did not look to the left, where Peter might still be, because he did not want to run into an inhabitant of the village who might just be coming out his door.

Behind him somewhere, a window opened, a voice cried something.

Tom did not look back.

What had the voice said? "Who is there?" or "Who is that?"

The dogs' barks had faded out, and Tom wet his lips as he rounded the corner to the right into Zebell-Krüger-Damm. The suitcase suddenly seemed weightless. Here cars were parked, a couple of cars even zoomed past. Down was definitely rising, and as if to confirm half the street lights went out. In the distance, not more than a hundred yards away, Tom saw what he thought was a bus-stop sign. Peter had mentioned a number 20 bus going to Tegell. That was the airport area, in the direction of Berlin at any rate.

Tom dared to lift the suitcase and to glance at its corners for the red or pink of blood. He could hardly be sure in the dim light, and what was earth or mud might have looked the same as blood, but he saw nothing to be concerned about. He made himself walk at a moderate pace, as if he had somewhere to go, but was not in a hurry. There were only two other people on the pavement now, both men, one elderly and a bit stooped. They seemed to pay him no attention.

How often did the buses run? Tom paused by the bus-

stop, and looked back. A car appeared, full lights on, and passed Tom.

"Apfel, Apfel!" That was from a small boy who came running and fell against the elderly man, who nearly embraced him.

Tom watched. Where had the little boy come from? Why was he crying "Apfel"? When he had none in his hands? The elderly man took the boy's hand, and the walked on, away from Berlin.

Here came the yellowish lights of what looked like a bus. Tom saw 20 TEGEL on its lighted front. When Tom paid for his ticket, he noticed that a couple of knuckles of his left hand were dark red with blood. How had that happened? Tom took a seat in the nearly empty bus, suitcase between his feet, stuck his left hand in his jacket pocket, and avoided looking at the other passengers.

Tom gazed out the window on his left, at the encouragingly increasing houses, cars, people. It was now light enough to see the colours of cars. What had happened to Peter? Tom hoped he had fled at the sound of the gunshots.

How soon would the body be found? In an hour, by some curious dog, the dog maybe in the company of a farmer? The body would not be visible from the road. Tom felt reasonably sure it was a body, not an unconscious man. Tom sighed, almost gasped, shook his head, and stared at the brown pigskin suitcase between his knees which contained two million dollars in paper. He leaned back and relaxed. Tegell must be the terminal stop, he thought, and he could almost afford to sleep, but he didn't sleep, only rested his head against the window.

The bus arrived at what seemed a U-Bahn rather than the air to Tom was interested in and after a few cars found the main rank. If a driver if he could go home, Tom did not know, and he would know, once he got to it.

Tom settled back in his seat. His knuckles ached, nothing serious, and it was his own fault. Wouldn't the city try again, ring up. If they be so scared or now, they would buy buses? The last idea, somewhat so, Tom, a professional were, the happened. Tom got on where in Grünwald, and stepped the driver walked in the direction apartment house. He ran keys on a ring which had given him, and he the door with a key took the lift. At the Tom knocked, and gave one short push. It was nearly half past six.

Tom heard footsteps. Eric's voice asked in:

"Who is there?"

"Ach!" A chain of

couple of beds said. "Back again!" To perched cheerfully, and suitcase down in Eric's room where it became his room.

"Tom, why did you leave?" Peter wanted to be twice!—And you have suitcase back!—Eric and shook his head, a silly economy.

Tom took out his latest suspect, which was a blouse beyond Eric's wife.

"Two shots, Peter. Now what happens down, Tom! Would you coffee? Or a drink?"

"A drink first. Could you manage a tonic?"

Eric could, and while making it, Tom was bathroom and, yes, hands with warm soap.

"How did you look?" Peter said, you look in.

"I still have his g Tom was standing in

loose in one hand drink in the other.

bus and a taxi. In still there." Tom no

and the suitcase. "I brought your suitcase."

"Still there?" Peter

up, started. "Who shot?"

"I did. But only in Tom's voice had said

He set down. "I hit your suitcase. The I think I think Eric

Eric nodded. "I hit"

"Did he?"

"Yes. I must put thing, Tom, I feel in

pyjamas, hurried bedroom, and came the

best of his black ing gown. Peter

said, maybe 10 min then he went back

thinking you might be wounded. He saw a

behind the shed."

"True," Tom said.

"So you didn't go back when I was waiting

church?"

Waiting at the chu

laughed, and stretches out in front of him.

know. Maybe I was didn't think I didn't

toward the church stopped more of his

said. "Coffee, yes, pl and then a little sleep

On his last words, phone rang.

That certainly again." Eric went to

again. "Just come Eric said. "No, he is

not hurt. He took a taxi." Then Eric

something Peter was shall tell Tom, y

funny. Here I can go it?" Eric put the

against his chest, st broadly. "Peter can the money is back he

wants to talk to you. Peter came up.

Peter. Yes, I am infinite thanks to you

you did well." Tom in German. "No, I

shoot the man."

"I could not see w

dark with no light

said. "I only saw he-

you. So I went away."

He was brave to

Tom thought. "I've

your gun and your to

Peter checked. "Li

get some sleep."

Eric made a little s

Tom knew it was not

disturb his sleep in d

and then, together the

the, horsehair sofa at

the sheets and blanket

Tom carried the b

case to the window, a

at is for signs of bloo

none, but he took, w

permission. A floor

the kitchen, moistened

sink, and went over

rior of the suitcase

then rinsed the rag

hung it on a rod to dr

"You know," Eric

Tom. "A man at

Peter as he was walk

from this little road.

Did you hear the

and Peter said yes,

why he had walked

road. Then the mo

what Peter was doin

Continued on page 7.

27/4/80 150



Spare a thought for the older jet setter

In Sydney. More time to explore the Rocks area and the Victorian district of Paddington, both of which are being preserved and restored, and more time to absorb the city's cosmopolitan atmosphere.

But I had to travel on. To fly north across Capricorn to the tropical Queensland coast and, later, to visit Alice Springs and Ayer Rock. I shall write of that in my next article. And, hopefully, explain what happened the night they had to cancel the road race meeting at Airfile Beach. . . .

Meanwhile, a practical thought or two about getting to Australia, especially if you are thinking of making a family reunion visit. Of the clubs that exist to help you save and plan for such a trip, and occasionally provide escorts, I would mention the Australian Family Reunion Club, whose members I travelled to Kuala Lumpur, jointly by British Airways and Qantas, and you may obtain more information from 49 Old Bond Street, London W1.

Another club worth considering is Anzette (Australian and New Zealand Emigrants and their Families) Association, c/o Holborn, London, EC1. I have written about Anzette in the past and travelled with its members on an escorted trip as far as Singapore. Like all such clubs it aims to provide you with the best service economically, and to help you to obtain those bargain stopover holidays for those who do wish to break the journey.

A list of such clubs is included in the new edition of the *Australian Travel Planner*, which you might be able to obtain from a travel agent, or direct from the Australian Tourist Commission, 49 Old Bond Street, London, W1. Next time I shall give details of other information available and of exclusive holidays to Australia now being sold by British Tourist.

John Carter

Clearing the surcharge smokescreen

efforts to attacking the problem, clearing away the suspicion, rather than attacking those who bring it to public attention.

The Association of British Travel Agents has a new president—Mr Ivor Elms, a well-known and respected travel agent from north London. It is perhaps symptomatic of the trade's obsession with its "image" that—to quote the travel press again—Elms is so largely unspoken, wary is how he will acquire himself when representing the industry on television and radio. What the travel trade seems to need today is that if the substance, the reality, is right, the "image" will take care of itself.

As it happens I believe Mr Elms is an excellent choice in this respect. As chairman of the association, what he could do a lot worse than root out this surcharge suspicion and clear away that "smokescreen" to which Miss Crawshaw referred.

He is not a tour operator—a man of the industry—but a retail agent—a man of the public; so nobody could accuse him of having any commercial axe to grind on this particular subject.—J.C.

Conflicting interests of farmers and tourists

men's executive arm on tourist matters. They had been established in 1934 and had been held in high regard, recognized as experts, and were consulted by Government officials.

The conception of redundant farm buildings into top quality self-contained units to attract high class tourists was first held in the 1920s. Sometimes greater coordination and cooperation between an applicant and a planning authority could resolve some of these original ideas perhaps more fruitfully than frequently happened.

Agriculture was a major primary industry in rural areas and needed to be kept as a profitable and efficient fundamental to the standard of life and quality of rural life as for the economy as a whole.

It was necessary to be taken through consultation with planning authorities and the Agriculture Department before any afforestation proposal were compatible with the natural environment and also as agriculture and forestry were inter-related.

Together with the Department of Education and Science his department was sponsoring a research project into the effects of the closure of rural schools on rural communities. They hoped to have the results of this later this year and he hoped that authorities would not come to hasty conclusions before they had the additional information.

The Home Secretary was aware of the problems caused by the misuse of air weapons, especially in the north of England, and was considering ways of reducing the risk to the general public arising from such misuse.

The Secretary concluded.

Licensed Firearms (Exclusion of Certain Persons) Bill and Licensing (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill

House adjourned, 3 pm.

ent sought

European Parliament
Strasbourg

The EEC Commission wanted to negotiate a return to stable trade in steel between the United States and Vietnam. Étienne Davignon, Commissioner for the Internal Market and Industrial Affairs, said in a debate on relations with the EEC and America in steel.

He said that the Commission would come forward with proposals for the Council if the United States changed its attitude.

The anti-dumping procedures brought against the steel producers of seven European countries by United Steel was a pretext in his view for a government to run its company was laying the blame elsewhere.

Between now and July (he said) we will make a study as we can of the anti-dumping pro-

cedures. The competent committee in Parliament should be able to follow this procedure so that if necessary we will be able to decide if further European action is required in June.

A motion from the Liberal and Democratic Group requesting the Commission to make every effort to improve the compensation under which the main industrialized countries required the efforts to improve the position of the iron and steel industry and the sector of the economy was adopted fairly by the international community was respected, was adopted.

The motion noted with anxiety that the anti-dumping procedures and the consequent suspension of the system of prisoner prices seriously called that consensus which had been reached in the OECD in 1977 into question.

Murder: proper direction on self-defence

species when directing the jury on the issue of intent in relation to the charge of murder, but on the issue of self-defence he effectively excluded the state of mind of the appellant and other jurors, by concluding that issue to the jury on the bald basis of, "Did the appellant use more force than was necessary in the circumstances?" The judge made no reference to the state of mind of the appellant from considering the real issue, which, paraphrasing Lord Morris, was, "Was this stabbing within the conception of necessary self-defence?" judged by the state of mind of common sense, heard in mind the position of the appellant at the moment of stabbing, or was it a case of angry retaliation or pure aggression on part of the appellant?

It is significant that the jury concluded that it was not murder but only manslaughter on the basis of no intent to cause really serious bodily harm, but seemed to have excluded the appellant's state of mind in considering self-defence. Not without considerable hesitation and anxiety the court had concluded that the verdict of manslaughter was unsafe and unsatisfactory and ought to be quashed.

Solicitors: Langdon & Co.
Torquay; DPP.

Mogul Line Ltd v Commerce International Incorporated

Article 11, rule 6 of the Hague Rules ("the Rules") of the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1924) which provides that "the carrier and the ship shall be discharged from all liability in respect of claims for damage or loss brought within one year" is designed for defence and not attack, the Court held. It was used to defeat a cross-claim by charterers against the owners' claim for the balance of hire it may give to charterers. It was also to give the court power to extend time for commencing arbitration proceedings under section 27 of the Arbitration Act, 1950.

The court dismissed an appeal by the owners, *Ltd v Commerce International Incorporated*, against Mr Justice Mustill's order of May 8, 1979, that the time within which the charterers could bring a claim against the owners, of *Commerce International Incorporated*, of Brussels, might give notice to appoint an arbitrator in respect of their claim for damages under a charter party of June, 1976, be extended until April 24, 1979, and that there be a stay of execution of the order until the charterers' owners for US \$21,307 and interest for the balance of hire.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the charterparty, which incorporated the Hague Rules, the owners chartered the *Lok Mayas*, a new ship, for a time-charter trip from Romania to Dubai, in the Persian Gulf. The ship was damaged in Dubai in July, 1976, and discharged part of her cargo of cement. Owing to a faulty oil tank and to fire, firebricks oil leaked and 103 tons of cement was damaged and dumped at sea as unusable. The Charterers said that it was the owners' fault.

The survey report of September, 1976, showed the loss and damage quantified at US\$30,403. In March, 1978, the owners wrote that they would pay US\$30,403 for deduction from hire and that the charterers' claim for cargo damage and expenses was now barred by the time limit of the Hague Rules. A writ for unpaid hire was issued in January, 1979, and judgment had been obtained with costs of execution.

The judge had been right in stay execution and grant the charterers an extension of time for the filing of their claim. It would be undue hardship within section 27 of the Arbitration Act, 1950, to deprive the charterers of their claim.

LORD JUSTICE TEMPLEMAN, agreeing, said that the owners took no proceedings until the time limit of the Hague Rules had expired. Those rules were designed for defence and not attack and so to use them was undue hardship.

Lord Justice Watkins agreed.

Barrister aided £378,000 car fraud, court told

oices within a month because he was a former chief salesman at the Rolls-Royce showroom on Berkeley Street, Mayfair. Mr. Bushell, who was a former partner and gave Mr. Thompson confidence.

Later Mr. Bushell told them to look for him and Mr. Russell needed to show that they had £150,000 available. Mr. Thompson said Mr. Thompson took Mr. Russell to see a Mr. George and Mr. George proposed and said that £150,000 would be repaid out of profits within a year.

Mr. Gee was dissuaded from joining Mr. Thompson for confirmation and parted with £50,000. The Rolls-Royce deal never materialized, Mr. Thompson said.

The trial is expected to last two months.

Sportsview

But I had forgotten to tell you that the foxes usually leave their immediate neighbours alone. The bumblebees' nest was disturbed and badgered off all round it in all directions, through the side of a bluebell wood. Rabbits run to a farm in their latrines among the dead to a flattened pile at the top of the plateau. old sex.

Alison

Michael Hamlyn



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 18: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning attended a Reception given by the Royal Wexsex Yeomanry (Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel David Ashford-Sanford) at Badminton House.

The Prince of Wales, attended by the Hon Edward Adesne, Captain Anthony Asquith and Mr Michael Shea, arrived at Badminton House, London, this evening in a Royal Air Force VC10 aircraft from Zimbabwe.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 18: The Duchess of Kent, Baroness of the Seeds International Piano Competition, this evening attended a banquet for the Federation of International Music Competitions at the Civic Hall, Leeds.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs David Napier.

The Duke of Gloucester will visit the United States at the conclusion of his visit to China from April 28 until May 6.

A memorial Mass in thanksgiving for the life of Graham V. Sutherland, O.A., will be celebrated in Westminster Cathedral on Tuesday, April 29, at 2.30 pm.

Birthdays today

Dame Margery Corbett Ashby, 98; Sir Andrew Gilchrist, 70; Sir Thomas Hopkinson, 73; Professor John Horlock, 73; Miss Gladys Mitchell, 79; Colonel C. T. Mifflor-Slade, 77; Mr Dudley Moore, 45; Lord Pilkington, 75; Lieutenant-General Sir John Woodall, 83.

TOMORROW: Major-General Sir Charles Dunphrie, 73; Sir Arnold French, 78; Sir Robert Hinchey, 73; Sir Robert Marriot, 73; Sir Hilton Paynter, 73; Professor G. O. Saylor, 79; Sir William Stewart, 79.

Service reception

The Royal Wexsex Yeomanry The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were present at a reception given by the Commanding Officer of the Royal Wexsex Yeomanry, the Duke of Beaufort, at Badminton House, London, this evening to mark the centenary of the title "Royal" on the regiment.

Colonel Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, Honorary Colonel of the Royal Devon Yeomanry, and Colonel M. St. J. V. Gibbs, Honorary Colonel of the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry, were among those present.

Service dinner

Brigadier R. E. Loder was the principal guest of officers of 57 (Home Counties), 257 (County of Sussex) and 257 (Sussex) (all many) Field Regiments RA (TA) at a dinner held at the Sussex Yeomanry Mess, Brighton, yesterday. Colonel C. R. S. Adams, who presided and the guests were welcomed by Major S. G. Champion.

Altholws School

The Summer Term starts on April 22 and ends on July 18. The confirmation service will be held on May 10. On June 2, the Combined Cadet Force will be inspected by Flag Officer, Naval Air Command, Rear-Admiral R. E. Anson, and the Auxiliary Unit of HM Coastguards by the Deputy Chief Coastguard, Commander H. S. May, RN (Retired). The prizes will be presented on speech day, June 7. By Marshal of the RAF, Sir John Grady, Colonel and Governor of Windsor Castle, the London gathering of the Old Altholws Club will take place on June 20. Their cricket week begins on July 20 and the summer ball will be held on July 25.

Cranleigh School

The Summer Term begins tomorrow. Andrew Harding continues as senior prefect and Andrew Staples is captain of cricket. Mr. L. A. Adams takes over as housemaster of 2 and 3 South from Mr. John Bain who has been appointed housemaster of Loversley House, which opens to September. The academic entrance scholarship examination is on May 12, 13, 14. Speech Day is on May 20. On May 24, the preparatory schools' tennis festival is on June 20. Long leave is May 24 to 28; term ends July 12.

Charterhouse

The Cricket Quarter begins tomorrow. A. J. Lathwood is head of school and S. G. T. Willis is deputy head. G. P. Bristow is captain of cricket. Exeat starts on Friday, May 30, and ends on Tuesday, June 3. On OC Day, July 12, Mr. Ben Travers will lay

25 years ago

From The Times summary of the strike period for Wednesday, April 20, 1955

Japanese defence

From Our Own Correspondent Tokyo, April 19.—The deadlock in Japanese-American negotiations on defence expenditure ended with a compromise solution jointly announced today. The agreement gives Japan almost complete satisfaction on the reduction of her share of joint expenditures under the mutual defence treaty by 17,300 million yen instead of 20,000 million yen which she had originally de-

The urgent desire for one Church 'renewed for mission'

"We dare to hope that this date should not be later than Easter Day, 1980." That hope was voiced in 1964, during the decade which Bernard Levin, in *The Pendulum Years*, described as "a credulous age". Since the content of the hope was a new step in church unity, Mr Levin's charge may be held to stick. Or could it have been otherwise?

The setting was the first (and so far the only) British Conference on Faith and Order, attended at Nottingham University in September, 1964 by some 500 people, most of them the officially designated representatives of the 23 denominations then comprising the British Council of Churches, together with authorized observers of the Roman Catholic Church and overseas visitors. One of the Conference's resolutions read:

"United in our urgent desire for One Church Renewed for Mission, this Conference invites the member churches of the British Council of Churches to appropriate groupings, such as nations, to work and pray for the inauguration of unity by a date agreed amongst them."

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"We dare to hope that this date should not be later than Easter Day, 1980." That date has passed—and it has not happened. Why? One answer might be that such conferences have a way of engendering euphoria in those present which evaporates when they get home. But that is not the answer. For those present were mostly experienced and responsible people who had looked hard at what was involved: some 40 of the delegates voted against the clause naming a date lest it seemed to be "dictating to the Holy Spirit". But the vast majority accepted it as "a splendidly irrational symbol" by which to "register our radical obedience" to the acknowledged demands of God's will for the unity of his church.

If then failure to meet the deadline was a radical disobedience to the will of God, the only answer to why? is "sin". But as usual, that only to describe the muddle of motives in life, and needs spelling out.

The subordinate clause about "appropriate groupings, such as nations" led into later unity conversations in Wales and their plans to convene

Today's engagements

The Duke of Gloucester, as president of British Consultants Bureau, leaves Heathrow airport for China.

The Duchess of Kent, Voluntary College of Yorkshire, Volunteers, visits the Battalion during their annual drill at arms meeting and dines with officers, 3.30.

Exhibitions: The Vikings, British Museum, 10 to 5; British Sub-Aqua Club, sports centre, Northwood, 10 to 6.

Lectures: The Reading and writing in Greece and Rome, 11.30, and "Athletics and society in ancient Greece", both by Ian Jenkins, 3. British Museum, The Tudors at home, by Sarah Bowles, 3 and William Morris, by John Crompton, 3.30, Victoria and Albert Museum.

Film, *Whales, Dolphins and Man*, Natural History Museum, 3.30. *Crucifixion*, Camden Arts Centre, Hampstead, 11.30 to 6.30.

Spring Flower Show, Valley Gardens, Harrogate.

Tomorrow

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Anglian Regiment, presents new colours to the 7th (Volunteer) Battalion, Leicester, 11.

Exhibitions: Challenge of the Chip, Science Museum, Kensington, 2.30 to 6; The Vikings, British Museum, 10 to 5; The Jugglers, National Gallery, 2 to 6.

Gardens open: Walpole House and Strawberry House, Chiswick, 11 to 6.

Shakespeare pilgrimage: meet Southwark Cathedral for Bank Holiday, arrival at Swan Theatre Museum for birthday party and cake-cutting ceremony, 3.45, and poetry reading, 4.15.

Poetry, "Sparks and Embers" of Osbert and Edith Sitwell, The Three Horseshoes, Heath Street, Hampstead, 8.

Luncheon

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Sir Reginald Murray, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, entertained at luncheon at the college yesterday Lord Greenall of Barrow, Lord Shawcross, GC, and Sir Alan Fairs.

Reception

St Edward's School
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayores and the Sheriffs and their ladies attended a reception held at the college yesterday at the Mansion House for the St Edward's School 1979 Appeal. The guests were received by the chairman, Mr. Graham Cooper, by the speaker, Lord A. Douglas, and by the speaker, Lord A. Douglas, and by the speaker, Lord A. Douglas.

Dinners

Old Berkhamsians' Association
The annual dinner of the Old Berkhamsians' Association was held at Berkhams School yesterday to mark the quincentenary of the birth of the school's founder, Dean Lancelot. The president, Mr. P. J. Williamson, was in the chair. The speakers were the president, Mr. B. H. Carnous Williams, and the headmaster, Mr. L. Spencer. The Right Rev. F. J. Trussell, were among the guests.

Sir John Fortescue Society

The annual dinner of the Sir John Fortescue Society was held at Exeter College, Oxford, yesterday. Lord A. G. Taylor, president, was in the chair and Lord Edmund-Davies was the guest of honour. Among other speakers were: Lord Gower, Lord Justice Drake, Judge Paul Hunt, Mr. D. Williams, GC, Professor Michael Fortescue, Professor Philip James, Mr. Fortescue, Mr. Fortescue, and the Dean of Exeter College.

Professors

Professor Sir Max Beloff, chairman, and other trustees of the Dickey Trust, entertained at dinner at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, those attending the trust's conference on Young People and the Law.

Arts projects cut

Hertfordshire is to have a number of arts projects provided by the Eastern Arts Association suspended because the county council has cut its subscription to Eastern Arts for 1980-81 from £2,420 to £2,000.

US icon sale breaks all records

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The most distinguished collection of icons offered for sale in the West, the Hain collection, set new price levels when auctioned by Christie's in New York on Thursday.

The icons had been purchased by Mr. George R. Hain from Russian museums during the brief period in the 1920s when the Soviet attempt to possess their foreign exchange position by the sale of works of art. The 91 icons in the collection made \$1,271,750 with every lot finding a buyer. No icon had previously fetched more than \$37,000 at auction, but seven went above that figure in Thursday's sale. A new auction record was established when a sixteenth-century Moscow school panel of "The Ascension" sold for \$170,000, or \$75,000 less than the \$245,000 to \$300,000 estimated by van Rijn, an Amsterdam dealer. But the items on which Christie's had expected the highest prices did not quite match up to their hopes.

They had estimated \$75,000 to \$150,000 on a pair of fourteenth or early fifteenth-century panels of "The Descent into Limbo" and "The Resurrection", which were sold for \$130,000, or \$58,500, and the other, a fifteenth-century Norwegian school, "Saint George slaying the dragon", sold for \$71,000, or \$31,900, to a New York bidder.

Most of the buyers were European dealers and private collectors.



Horse trials
**Slender lea
for Miss
Bayliss after
dressage**

By Pamela MacGregor-Morrison
Rachel Bayliss, who won European silver medal last year, is leading the 1 million Horse Trials field; and of the dressage phase—not her veteran Gargle the Gr who, sharp with the Queen, Columbus, the distinction of being the oldest horse competing on the British stud stables with Magic Mineral by the

mium station Derrick, winner of the Midland Bank novice-chess bonspiel to 1977.

Mystic Minsirel has a double advantage of 1-1 penalty po and Judy Bradwell is bringing on Castilewellan, who won Rancastown three day event summer and reproduced this at Laphook and Brizetack rect. Third is the overnight leader, Starkey on Topper Too, and comes the timber-up on Thure Lucinda Price Palmer on Mail Day, who is disputing fourth with Miss Starkey's second in

The Baptist.

Miss Bayless has a pair at the leaders, for Gurgle is in place, above Colin Ware on Olive Jackson's. Yeton, like Sue Benson, comes next on a cle, followed by her Lohmst team mate, Clarissa Stracher. Merry Seagraves.

Miss Hagensen, the Euro champion, led throughout event when he won his off Germany last September with a peer in dressing speed endurance and then limping to be to maintain his front leg. He will have to

front behind for he is lying
teeth with Richard Meade
Speculator, and Jane Holder
Kodnam on the 1978 w
Waxior.

The expression is how
merely relevant for the fir

Five years ago Madison rained off, and the unexpected warm spell has dried out some and may prove to be

soundness for horses who rely on speed to counteract effects of a poor dressage. If the run-rhines as warmly did yesterday, the best will be a hard battle in other parts the course seems some smaller and less formidable usual, though Badminton has been a secure and will as the world's top three-day event.

An early start is essential; for though the speed and endurance does not start until the rust has on the main roads surrounding the course early and is at its pickiest at 11 o'clock.

RESULTS (after dressage): 1

penalty points: 2. Mike J. Sir
Castelwellan (44); 3. Miss J. B.
Tupper (20); 4. Miss
Palmer's (14); 5. Miss
Stark's (10). The Captain.

By Michael Coleman

There is nothing like in the experts' mapping: "oh when it's the entire French in the Sealink International missed the first break at Chorges yesterday morning barely a mile of the day's course covered.

Six Dutchmen attacked each ferocity that the Bel immediately, leaving at French at the rear. Pashay were suffering from Gallic tion induced by their bac

egg - breakfast - the common
usual fare is plenty of stea
and salad - but whatever
son they let the escapers
never saw them again.

In their wake, the Dutch
ged along 15 others - it
Bob Downs, the race lead
Dutchmen believe in mak
leader work, so the pace
slacken. At Scandiørpe (23
the French and the rest we
ing up to three minutes in
and it was time for Downs,

by Steve Poulter, to off Dutch a hand. Over the next swept 10 miles, to the village of Thorne, their gladly accepted, although a placed lorry in a zigzag nearly wrote the effort of main sufferer was Martin C. the Canadian, who 'was d. Back to the rear, the 4 now five minutes as the gave up, trying to persue Boiden to work and at the Eastender, the leaders he

gutter to gutter with the wants held back by the pre-Stephen Roche, of Dublin, a 50-metre break going in but he was caught and Romy Van Holsen, the junior champion in 1977, over the line by half from Downs. Down's 10 bonus puts him 32-second. Morten Søthaug, of Norway, finishes in Manchester

after struggling over Holm
Russia: 1. R. Van Halbea
Soviet Union: 2. R. Doms
3. B. Lomovskiy (Czechoslovakia)
4. G. Brodskiy (Netherlands)
Van Halbea (Belgium): 6. J
(Czechoslovakia) all same
Team: 1. Belgium 11:20
Czechoslovakia 11:21 14: 3.
15: 21 23 24
Overall: 1. E. Domsa (Finland)
2. Sæther (Norway) - 16: 3
3. Wolke (Netherlands)
4. R. Van Halbea 15:50 0.
Breda: 1. R. Doms 15:50 0.
2. Sæther 16:00 45 Team: 1.
Norway 27:31 3. Belgium
and Czechoslovakia 28:41

Boost for Hampsh.
Hampshire may have
vices of their leading
Gordon Greenidge, for in
rup Shrewsbury county ch
ship matches. Greenidge
in the West Indies party
England, is back at his
this country, and has
country he would like to
visit until he joins the
train on May 8.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal
Investment and
Finance,
pages 18 and 19

Stock markets
FT Ind 442.7, up 0.1
FT Gilt 66.68, down 0.06

Sterling
\$2.2250, unchanged
Index 73.0, down 0.1

Dollar
Index 88.5, down 0.2

Gold
\$512.50, up \$1.00

Money
3 mth sterling 17.7-17.8
3 mth Euro \$ 17.1-17.2
3 mth Euro \$ 16.1-16.2

IN BRIEF

Gettys and Met again
Metropolitan's \$415m bid for Liggett's...
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Treasury chief sees start of recession as US banks cut prime rate to 19.5 pc

From Frank Vogel
Washington, April 18

Commercial banks across the United States cut their prime lending rates to 19.5 per cent from 20 per cent today and the Department of Commerce released new gross national product figures showing a distinct decline in the nation's economic growth rate.

Mr William Miller, Secretary of the Treasury, told reporters in Pittsburgh that a moderate recession lasting from two to three quarters was likely. He predicted that by the final quarter of this year unemployment would be about 1 per cent to around 7.1 per cent.

Mrs Courtney Slater, the Commerce Department's chief economist, said the new gap figures showed that economic activity peaked in January and had fallen back since then. The economy was now in a recession. Real gdp rose by 1.1 per cent at an annual rate in the first quarter of the year, on a seasonally adjusted basis, after a 2 per cent rise in the previous quarter, according to provisional figures.

The gap price deflator in the first quarter showed the rate of inflation rose to 9.5 per cent, on a seasonally adjusted basis, after a 2 per cent rise in the previous quarter, according to provisional figures.

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Indications of slowing economic activity, which is prompting moderation in credit demands, are seen by Wall Street bankers as the main cause of the decline in interest rate levels.

Citibank early today joined Chase Manhattan Bank in lowering its prime rate to 19.5 per cent from 20 per cent, but Bankers Trust swiftly followed with a move to 19.5 per cent. Soon after that, banks on the east coast, in the mid-west and in California announced 19.5 per cent rates.

Mr John McGillicuddy, chairman of Manufacturers Hanover Corporation, told his company's annual meeting today that he expected the prime rate to fall to about 1 per cent by the end of the year. He gave warning that much depended on the future course of monetary policy.

The stock markets were not surprised by today's news and fell only a few points, but the tone was more positive than it has been for some time. Some encouragement was taken from McGillicuddy's statement that the bank consortium, headed by his bank, had agreed to provide vital financing for Chrysler. The piling car company is seeking about \$650m (£286m) from its bankers.

Mr Miller said he was optimistic that the inflation rate, as measured by the consumer price index, will be back in single figures early next year. The White House has stated it expects the rate could fall by as much as 8 per cent from its current annual rate of around 18 per cent by the end of the year.

The decline in the rate of real primarily attributable to a slowing in real final sales of residential investment fell significantly. The Commerce expects quite a sharp fall in housing this quarter.

Sterling stays firm: Sterling changed on the day in London yesterday. Its trade weighted index stood at 73.0 compared with 73.1.

The dollar recovered in late trading to close at 1.8540 Deutsche marks after easing to 1.8450 and showing a little net change on Thursday's closing levels.

After a quiet but nervous morning, the dollar eased in the wake of Morgan Guaranty Trust's cut in prime rate to 19.5 per cent. And the similar move by other American banks.

The French franc closed at 4.3100 to the dollar, compared with 4.3025 at yesterday's close. It appeared to show little reaction to the news of a 1 per cent trade deficit of \$360m francs in March after a 4.27m franc February deficit.

Dealers' midday calculations showed the French franc at the top of the European Monetary Unit at 4.3100, a 1 per cent stronger than the lira at the bottom of the system.

The dollar closed at 1.7350 Swiss francs compared with an opening 1.7280 and a close on Thursday of 1.7360.

But the most important development is the expansion in the finance house business. For Barclays it has the double attraction of a strong presence in the United States and some protection against the cyclical nature of banking.

Traditionally when interest rates go down, banking margins are squeezed but finance houses benefit, because they tend to borrow on floating rates and lend out on fixed rates. Thus when banking profits fall, those of finance houses rise and to some extent the present developments will protect Barclays against falling interest rates.

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As soon as its current plans are realized Barclays, which is buying Aetna through Barclays American Finance Corporation, its wholly owned subsidiary, will have become one of America's largest finance houses within a year, with 525 offices and assets of \$1,800m.

Aetna Business Credit, whose head office is in East Hartford, Connecticut, is a \$785m company and specializes in short and medium term business finance. It has 11 offices in the United States. The purchase is still subject to approval by the boards of Barclays American Corporation and Aetna Life and approval of the Federal Reserve Board.

It was only last May that Barclays made its first move in the United States consumer finance. It bought the American Credit Corporation for \$190m, now renamed Barclays American.

Last November it announced plans to acquire 138 offices from the Beneficial Corporation. The definitive agreement for this deal has now been reached though it still needs the approval of the Federal Reserve Board.

If the acquisition of Aetna and the Beneficial offices go through, Barclays will have spent around \$400m.

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£74m move by Barclays for finance group in US

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

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Goldsmith group sells Bovril offshoot to Beecham for £42m

By Richard Allen
Insurance Correspondent

General Occidental, the French group headed by Sir James Goldsmith, is selling Bovril, its British food manufacturing subsidiary, to the Beecham Group for £42m.

Sir James said last night that the deal represented part of a plan by GO and its Cavenham food retailing arm to withdraw completely from food manufacturing.

The Bovril sale coincides with the disposal of GO's French food manufacturing interests to BSN-Gervais-Danone in exchange for minority stakes in two BSN subsidiaries Millat and Diapal.

According to Sir James, sales of the group's other food manufacturing interests in Austria, Sweden and Spain are to follow shortly. Altogether, the disposals could produce cash of between £100m and £150m.

Sir James said that this would be added to the group's existing balances for use when suitable opportunities occurred.

He added: "Our food retailing operations have been growing much faster than the manufacturing side, with the result that these interests have become fairly trivial in group terms."

With sales of £800m expected in the United Kingdom in the current year and £2,200m in the United States, GO-Cavenham was on the way to becoming the third largest food retailer in the world, according to Sir James.

He said that there were other problems associated with the conflict of interest between retailing and manufacturing. "We can't develop our manufacturing interests in the United States because of anti-trust difficulties, while it is difficult to be both a manufacturer and retailer in Europe."

Sir James discounted suggestions that the sales could be a prelude to further moves in publishing following last autumn's launch of *New Express*. "You only have to look at our consolidated accounts to see how irrelevant publishing is in this context," he said.

Employing 1,400 people and with two factories in the United Kingdom, Bovril is GO's biggest single food manufacturing unit, producing Bovril, Marmite and Ambrosia desserts. It was bought by Cavenham Foods, then a publicly quoted group in 1971 for £14.5m after a fierce bid battle involving Rowntree Mackintosh.

Yesterday's deal, which takes Beecham into the general food area for the first time, was agreed after sales by Bovril in the year to March 29 of £47m and trading profits of £4.9m. Net assets acquired by Beecham amount to around £18m.

A spokesman for Beecham said last night that the deal had been agreed after an approach from GO a few weeks ago. Of the purchase price, which is to be paid in cash, £5m will be deferred until next June.

The spokesman added that the deal would fit in well with Beecham's existing "health" brands like Ribena, Lucozade and Schlurp. He added that the group could add the new products to its own existing worldwide distribution networks. Bovril already has subsidiaries in Canada, Ireland and South Africa.

He added that the deal would be financed partly from existing cash resources and partly from borrowings, and that there was no question of another rights issue following the £80m cash-raising exercise in November 1978.

December GO reported that Cavenham's profits had topped £27m in the 32-week period to November 10 on sales of £1,370m. Cavenham's London stockmarket quotation ended last night at 197.7. GO succeeded with a partial bid for the 25 per cent of the group in public hands via a conversion of ordinary shares into preference stock.



Sir James Goldsmith: pulling out of food manufacturing

In the French deal four of GO's main food companies are involved—Societe Amora, Societe La Pie Qui Chante, Societe Vandame and Segma. The companies will be merged into two Danone subsidiaries, the Millat Pasa firm and the Bovril subsidiary company. In exchange, GO gets a 25 per cent stake in Millat and 30 per cent of Diapal. The four GO companies have a turnover of 1,200m francs (£125m).

The takeover will propel BSN to the front rank of French food companies, following a huge re-shuffle of its interests in recent months. The move, which a BSN spokesman claimed had been encouraged by the French Government, follows the sale of the French group's meat plant interests to Pilkington Glass in the United Kingdom for around £125m.

A spokesman for Beecham publishing is in this context," he said.

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A spokesman for Beecham

Rockwell calls off bid for Serck

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

Rockwell International, the American aerospace and components group, has abandoned its £33m takeover bid for Serck, a Birmingham valve maker, after legal intervention by the United States Department of Justice.

On this, Serck's share price slumped 24p to 47p, valuing the group at just under £20m. But Serck, whose board had recommended Rockwell's terms only reluctantly on price grounds, welcomed the Rockwell withdrawal.

"It always seemed clear to

us that there were anti-trust implications in Rockwell's takeover," said Mr John Pinckard, Serck's chief executive, "and the Department of Justice obviously thinks so as well."

Apparently the department's intention to take legal action to block Rockwell was taken on two grounds. The first was that Rockwell, the world's largest manufacturer of plug valves used in the oil, gas and chemical industries, was taking over Serck, the second largest maker of such valves.

The second was that Serck was a potential entrant into the United States market for valves and this meant that any Rockwell takeover might be anti-competitive.

Rockwell could have fought the department in the courts but the process would have taken the bid beyond the time it would have been permitted to keep the offer open under the British Takeover Code.

Nevertheless, Rockwell still holds a 29.7 per cent stake in Serck, built up in controversial circumstances prior to launching its bid in March. It remains unclear whether it will eventually try to relaunch its bid for Serck if it can overcome the present legal barriers.

Mr John Moore, under-secretary at the Department of Energy, said yesterday that the board had been set a tough task but he intended to get coal into the position of a profitable and competitive industry.

A capital expenditure programme on new mines put into effect with the "Plan for Coal" supported by the then Conservative government in 1974 has begun to pay off. Productivity is improving and 1979-80 has seen the first increase in deep-mined production since 1963.

In 1978-79 the Government paid the NCB a total of £118m in operating grants, including aid for stocking coal, sales promotion, and help for the regions. The regional grants are to be ended immediately by the Bill and replaced by a system of deficit grants to meet any loss up to the £525m maximum.

To aid the investment programme now running at £600m a year, the NCB is being allowed to increase its borrowing limits by £1,200m to £3,400m. A further increase to £4,200m is subject to parliamentary approval.

Interest is also to be deferred at the discretion of the Secretary of State for Energy, on long-term mining projects. It is expected that roughly a third of the annual capital expenditure may benefit. The Government has also agreed to provide assistance on pension funding and redundancy schemes. The scheme to encourage miners to move from uneconomic to economic pits is extended.

The Department of Energy has conducted a major review of its coal policy which has resulted in the publication of the Bill.

Mr Moore said there would be no pit closures, but he did expect a reduction in the uneconomic capacity within the NCB to be reduced.

"During a difficult period of change, the industry has come to need substantial government grants," he said. "The Government is naturally concerned to reduce the degree of financial support which it now gives."

The programme was intended to revitalize the industry, not to cut expenditure to fit in with public sector borrowing.

Reaction to the Bill from the NCB was mixed. A statement welcomed the deferral of interest charges and said the board had every intention of improving efficiency, but pointed out that the Bill reduced aid which was being given to coal producers elsewhere in Europe.

Gilts recover after early fall

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

Early dealings in the Government's latest long-dated gilt edged stock saw the price go to a discount, before it recovered to close at £204 yesterday. The stock was issued in £20 paid form.

The whole gilt-edged market turned easier during the morning and the new stock, Treasury 13½ per cent 2004-08 fell to a low point of £191 at one stage. Around this level, however, long-term investors who had failed to bid high enough for the new stock in Thursday's tender were able to pick up stock on relatively attractive terms.

Prices recovered across the board as the day wore on and were further encouraged by the decision of the authorities not to announce a new short-dated stock and by the news of further cuts in American prime rates. The new long stock reached a high for the day of £204.

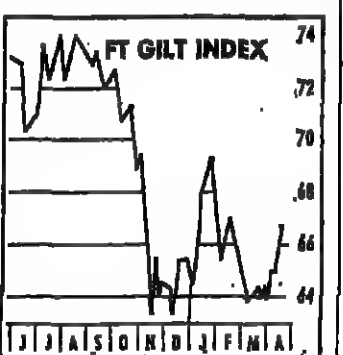
In the money markets period rates again had a slight recovery but the decline in the Treasury Bill rate at the weekly tender was relatively small.

Once again, bids for the £300m of bills on offer topped the £1,000m mark, but the average rate of discount at which the bills were allotted only fell from 16.1808 per cent to 16.1776 per cent.

City views on how much further interest rates can fall in the short term remain cautious. While many analysts believe that continuation of the recent improvement in monetary growth could justify a small reduction in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate by early summer, there are also doubts about how the money supply will behave once the banking "corset" is dismantled.

As far as gilts specifically are concerned, the market has absorbed a large amount of stock over the past fortnight and will need time to digest it fully.

The equity market did little yesterday. Prices eased slightly in the early afternoon but generally closed little changed on the day. Over the week, the Financial Times 30 share index has risen by just over 7 points.



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Pay obstacle for head of telecommunications

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Candidates for the chairmanship of the new British Telecommunications Corporation are being sought as a result of the unexpected resignation of Sir William Barlow, the Post Office chairman, and they are likely to be offered salary grades lower than that paid to Sir William at present.

The Government is understood to be considering dropping the salary grades of the chairman and board members of the two separate corporations which will take over when the Post Office has been split.

At present the Post Office is second from the top of the nine salary tiers used by the Review Body on Top Salaries—which determines the pay of nationalized industry board members and chairmen—alongside the National Enterprise Board and the British Steel Corporation and below the British National Oil Corporation.

A reclassification into the third tier would bring the proposed new telecommunications chairman and board members and Giro into line with most of the other large nationalized industries, including British Rail, the British Gas Corporation and the National Coal Board.

On the salary rates which took effect on April 1, Sir William might have found his salary reduced by £4,500 from the present £48,500 per annum as a result of moving from the chairmanship of the Post Office to head British Telecommunications.

The Nationalized Industries' Chairman's Group, which Sir William heads, was disappointed that the latest pay increases awarded as a result of recommendations made by the review body in 1978 did not take account of inflation during the intervening period.

Their dissatisfaction is understood to have intensified recently because of increases in the pay for chairmen of other state-owned concerns. Unfavourable salary and pension levels have added to the difficulties in attracting suitable candidates from private industry to become chairmen of the nationalized industries. The Department of Industry is expecting a long search to find a chairman of the telecommunications authority if it does not find a candidate from within the Post Office.

Demand for higher insurance standards

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Further calls for higher standards of conduct among non-broker intermediaries, like agents in insurance selling have been made by both the Department of Trade and Mr Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading.

Mr Borrie said yesterday a code of practice for insurance company agents was needed

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Taxation

Preparing for the form-filling season

Should professional advice be taken when completing a tax return? This is a question often asked particularly at this time of year when taxpayers start to grapple with the intricacies of claiming allowances for 1979-80 and declaring income for 1979-80.

Most people, who are only on PAYE with no other sources of income, or virtually none, should certainly be able to cope on their own. At the other end of the scale, the person who has a substantial income perhaps from several sources or reasonably elaborate profit and loss accounts to prepare for the Inspector of Taxes would be foolish not to take advice and have his tax affairs professionally handled.

So what help can an accountant or other practitioner provide? First, there is the matter of obtaining essential information—income, allowable outgoings, dividend statements, amounts of building society interest paid and a host of other items. Secondly, there is the completion of the actual return itself, together with the summarising accounts and other information.

Tax returns are dropping through letterboxes all over the country. This week we start a new series to help you fill them in correctly.

Finally, when the Inspector of Taxes issues the assessment of the tax liability, based on the information in the tax return, this must be checked to make sure there are no errors. If there is a disagreement with the Inspector, the objective and practical professional adviser is likely to be in a better position to negotiate than you are. He will know whether to press a point and when to withdraw. Often, individuals handling their own affairs get matters completely out of perspective and finish up aggravating the situation.

An accountant or tax consultant should be able to give positive advice on such matters as claiming allowances and business expenses to which you may be entitled and whether you should make or revoke a wife's earnings election. Such tax-savings advice is likely to be very valuable—but do not under-estimate the importance

and value of the other more mundane tasks.

However, do you really need an accountant or could you get by perfectly well with a little efficiency and a copy of the excellent annual *Which Tax Savings Guide*? Possibly you could, under certain conditions. First, you must be efficient and this means, at the very least, filing documents properly and keeping meticulous accounts. Second, you must be prepared to work at understanding the tax system and keep up with the constant changes, and third, your affairs should not be too complex. If you run a business, it really is a mistake not to take professional advice. Finally, you must have the time and the patience to deal with your own affairs.

You could save professional fees by undertaking most of the ordinary clerical functions of information collecting and collating while leaving the more skilled advisory computing and negotiating to the professionals. The cost of employing an accountant or using a bank varies enormously. Most charge according to the amount of time taken, but "charge out rates" can be very different in London compared with, say, a provincial town. For example, a medium sized London firm is unlikely to take on a case for much less than £75 to £100 per annum at least, but in the suburbs or in the provinces the minimum could be a good deal less.

Even if you do decide to employ an accountant, it is still well worth making an effort to understand the tax system. In our experience, the better informed clients are not only able to obtain better advice they are also able to make the best use of it.

Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey

Grouse

Each time the gas, water, electricity or rate bill is paid at the bank using a prepared bank giro counterfoil the recipient is liable to pay the bank up to 37p. Yet if you are a customer of the bank, and have elected to pay the bill with a cheque, filling up a bank giro credit slip with the branch reference and account number, and payment identification details that appear on the creditor's counterfoil, the eventual transfer would probably be made without charge.

Two gas boards—Eastern and Midland—have rebelled against the clearing banks' greed in levying so heavy a charge on credits paid to their accounts by bank giro. For Eastern the charge would almost have doubled at the beginning of April, from 20p to 37p, and that at a time when high interest rates have brought the banks huge windfall profits.

The banks' objection is directed against

the large number of cash payments made by people who do not have bank accounts. But they levy the charge on all transfers, whether made by bank customers or not.

Now thousands of customers have lost the convenience of settling bills this way, and more will if other authorities follow the indignation gas boards' example.

The banks may believe their customers have forgotten that bank giro was only conceived to meet the challenge of National Giro and its low cost, convenient banking services.

The best course for many consumers affected by the bank boycott is to open a National Giro account, keep it in balance, and settle at the Post Office for free. But is there any reason why hugely profitable banks should be so reluctant to be of service to the public at large? Do they really want to insist that they must be nationalized first?

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



When there is no will • Motorway blues

My grandmother has died without leaving a will. Her closest relative is my mother and I understand that she is the one who ought to apply for letters of administration to wind up her mother's affairs. Unfortunately she suffers from severe arthritis and would like me (her youngest child) to deal with it. The advice bureau has advised my mother to fill in the forms for administration of her mother's estate at the local probate registry, but she is wondering whether I could make the application in her place? (AP, Cheltenham).

Normally the closest of the next-of-kin is entitled to apply for letters of administration to wind up the affairs of a relative who dies without leaving a will. Usually this is done by the widow or widower. Where there is no surviving husband or wife, any child of the deceased who is over 18 can apply for letters of administration. If there are no children the deceased's brother or sister may apply.

If your mother is the only child of your grandmother who is still alive, then she is the correct person to administer your grandmother's estate. But because she is in ill health, and feels she cannot cope with the necessary form filling, she may renounce this right. She should complete a form of renunciation, which may be obtained from the local probate registry. You will then be permitted, as next of kin, to apply for letters of administration, but this does not mean that your mother thereby loses her inheritance. Thus, if your mother is the sole surviving child of your grandmother, she will be entitled to the whole of her estate. You will merely undertake to the court to wind it up for her benefit.

Returning from holiday recently, our plane was delayed with the result that we arrived late in the evening instead of the early afternoon. Although very tired, we were obliged to set off on a three-hour journey along the motorway. After about an hour, I felt myself nodding off and thought it wiser to pull on to the hard shoulder to take a rest. Shortly afterwards a police officer came over and asked if I was feeling all right. When I told him that I was

merely tired, he replied that this was insufficient reason for stopping on the motorway and that I could only stop if I was feeling actually unwell. Surely this is a very fine distinction, and I can hardly believe that it is one supported by the law. (AP, Wolverhampton).

A motorist who feels drowsy is not permitted to park on the verge of the motorway, because the situation is not an emergency: you should have left the motorway at the nearest intersection. A driver should only stop in the event of accident, or emergency, or to pick up any object which has fallen on to the motorway. He may also stop to give help to anyone else in similar circumstances. If you have a breakdown or run out of petrol your car may remain on the verge, provided it causes no danger to vehicles using the carriageway, but not for any longer than is necessary.

A close friend recently confided that although she has been living with her "husband" for many years, they are not legally married. In fact, she tells me his legal wife is still very much alive and he has several grown up children. Unfortunately, he is now seriously ill and although he assures her that he has made full provision for her in his will, she has never seen a copy. Presumably, as a prospective beneficiary, she ought to be able to verify this? She is absolutely devoted to him, but I wonder if it would be wiser to leave him until her financial position is settled? (VA, Berwick-on-Tweed).

Even if she is his beneficiary, your friend has no legal right to see the will. In any case, getting a copy would not safeguard her position, as he can change it at any time. One way round this (if he is willing) would be for

This specialist readers' service has been compiled with the help of Eric Brunet, John Drummond, Vera Di Palma and Ronald Irving

the policy holder, personal accident policies are no longer eligible for tax relief, even on the death benefit proportion of the premiums. Could you confirm that this is so? (NM, Sidmouth).

From April 1979, tax relief on life assurance premiums has been allowed as a discount off the premium, with the life office recovering the amounts in bulk from the Inland Revenue instead of individual claims being made for tax relief by policy holders.

The insurance companies asked for the death benefit on personal accident policies to be excluded from the new arrangements in view of the administrative problems the new system would have caused them.

I am a trustee of a number of properties. I have recently been appointed agent of a well established insurance company. Am I entitled to put the insurance of the properties held in the trust through my own agency and retain the commission, or must it go to the beneficiaries? (AM, Essex).

A trustee is not permitted to profit from his position unless the trust deed authorizes it, for example payment for professional services rendered by the trustee. It does not matter that the beneficiaries suffer no loss by your retention of the commission. Once you place the insurance of trust property through your own agency, any commission you receive must be handed over to the beneficiaries.

An old friend of mine who has been very successful in business has asked me to be a trustee in respect of a family settlement. He wants to establish under his will I have very little business experience and I wonder whether I might incur personal liability if I fail to manage his investments to the best advantage? (AF, Guildford).

Modern trust deeds usually allow the trustees to invest any investment they think fit, whether or not producing income. You should make sure that the trust deed contains a short clause freeing you from liability in the event of loss. "My trustees may vary or transgress any investment in all

cases without being liable for loss." In any case you will not be liable for diminution in value of the trust fund, if you exercise the degree of diligence of a man of ordinary prudence would exercise in the management of his own affairs.

Some time ago JD wrote an article about medical and repatriation insurance cover people working or living in developing parts of the world. Could you please let me know details of these schemes, if still operative in Saudi Arabia (PDT, Newcastle upon Tyne).

For Saudi Arabia, you buy repatriation insurance underwritten at Lloyd's through Camel Insurance Co. (London). It is known as EC2N (ZES); it is known as Medivac. Through the organization, medical expenses are covered by BUPA. Also, a repatriation service is operated by Air Ambulance (UK) Ltd, Box 16, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex (127).

Since retiring from teaching through Unions, I have to my attention to devising original plot and setting a thriller story. I would like to know if there is any special form of words I can use to submit the plot to a publisher that would effectively preclude any other publisher from using the plot. (WB, Cornwall).

You are right to be cautious. You have no copyright in an idea or plot, so a publisher could copy it without your consent. If you enter a contract (in this case a one commissioning you to write a book), there is in law a fiduciary relationship between you, even though no contract terms are finally agreed, where a novelist tells the publisher that he has not yet written a prospective publisher's letter would be liable to damages for breach of confidence if, after rejecting it, he passed the plot to someone else. You should mark correspondence "confidential".

Investor's week

Gilts brighten a dull market

Roman Augurs watched lightning, listened for thunder and marked the cries of birds. Our own ancestors guarded against the spilling of salt, and non-dered sneezing, stumbling and the cracking of furniture.

Old habits die hard. This week the superstitious picked over numerous scraps and tried to make a meal of them. But they failed and the FT index moved from 435.6 to 442.7. I suspect that the market got it right. Take the £1,000 of new 13 1/2 per cent Treasury stock 2004-08 which has just been issued by the authorities. The Bank of England's Watling Street offices were flooded with applications for the partly paid stock. But nails were bitten as trading began.

The limp start to early dealings seemed to signify that gilt-edged was still sickly, unable to withstand the least demands put upon it. Not so. Hard on the start of dealings in the new issue stock came the word of three big United States banks cutting their prime lending rates to 19 1/2 per cent to first class borrowers. Gilt-edged went better before quietening again. All that happened was that applicants made sure that they got stock when tenders went out, and paid out too much money. They got more stock than they bargained for when applications were sorted out.

Earlier in the week it was reported that the growth in money supply last month of only 0.4 per cent, indicating 1 1/2 per cent a year, was just outside the Government's target. It was hailed as a sure sign that bank lending—the key to interest rates—was slowing down.

The direction seems right, but

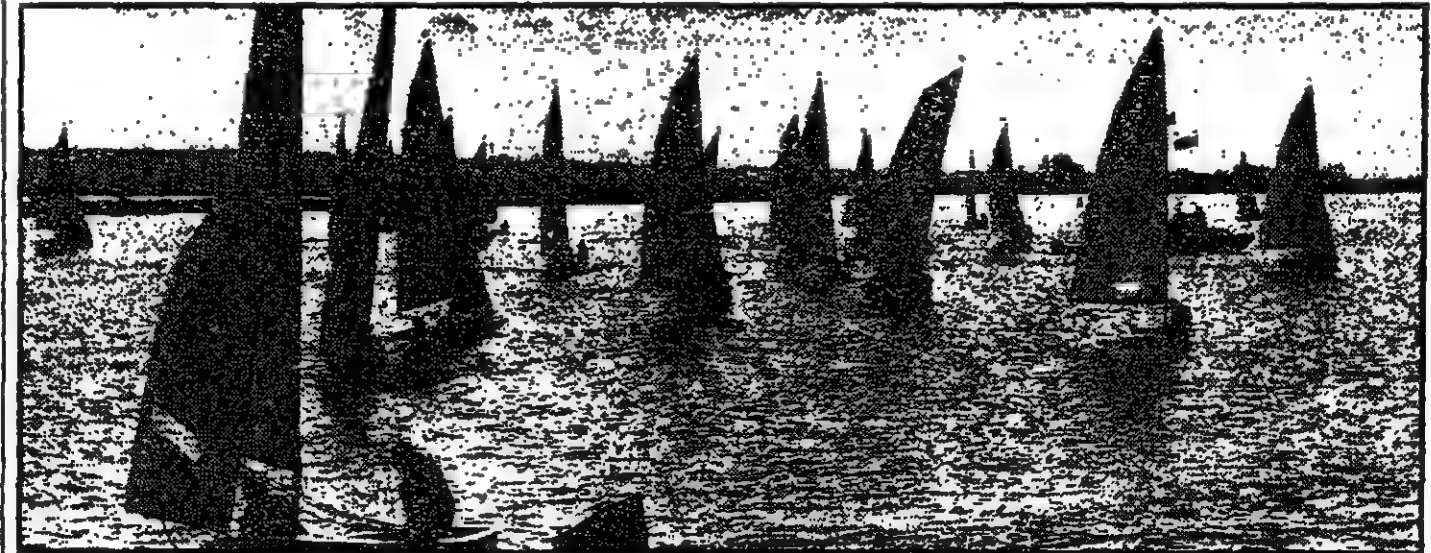
remember that the end of control on bank lending in June is going to test money supply figures as bank acceptances come into the reckoning. Again, Wall Street has been miserable all week on dark thoughts of deep depression. The fall in prime rates seems to echo these fears. But we have been waiting for United States recession for so long, and have heard about sterile monetary policies from the Federal Reserve so often, that it seems best to suspend judgment, at least until President Carter's reelection chances become clearer.

Earlier this week Rugby Portland Cement called on its shareholders for £12.3m cash. Does this signify the start of a rights issue season? It seems unlikely. For most companies the stock market is too low and prospects too misty. Anyway companies are busy cutting down spending on stocks and plants; the good time for issues is sometime next year when capital spending plans are dusted down and prospects are brightening.

Shareholders in Serek were sitting back waiting for United States Rockwell's 77p a share to fall through their letter boxes. But the United States Department of Justice had other ideas.

Which only goes to show that Fate forever pulls out rugs from under the confident (that is, the unwary), just as it did in the shape of the United Kingdom Monopolies Commission which recently blocked Blue Circle's all but completed offer for Armistage Shanks.

Peter Wainwright



Insurance

The cost of messing about in boats

A number of insurance companies are including a section for small boats in their household policies. Usually this section gives a good bargain, because it is cheaper for an insurer to insure a boat as a separate policy. But if your boat is more than about 16 feet overall, or if your household insurers do not provide a section for small boats, separate arrangements have to be made with one of the companies which write yacht business, or with underwriters at Lloyd's.

Better materials for boats and inflation, have meant that a few fairly new boats are appreciating in value. Check the value of your boat: you might find that you need to increase the insured value.

Penalties for under-insuring a boat are not so stiff as for many non-marine policies where the amount of any claim may be

scaled down in the same proportion as the under-insurance. Normally, claims for repairs under a marine policy are met in full up to the sum insured, but a total loss is always possible.

Salvage charges are based on the full value of the vessel. So if your boat is rescued from peril and salvage has to be paid, insurers will pay only a proportion of the charge in the event of under-insurance.

Make sure that you have enough third-party cover. Sometimes, unless you ask for higher cover, it may amount to no more than the insured value of your boat. This could prove hopelessly inadequate, and you would have to meet the balance of any award for death, personal injury or damage to property made against you. Now, some insurers are including cover of up to £100,000 or £250,000.

With the rising cost of sailing and boating, you may be tempted to cut down on your insurance cover by insuring just for third-party risks. Admittedly, you should show a worthwhile saving in premium, but it is a dangerous course to take. First, most claims such as theft and storm damage when a boat is on moorings, arise when nobody is on board a boat.

Second, although another yachtman is responsible for a collision and he is fully insured, you may not be able to make anything near a full recovery for the cost of repairing your boat from him or from his insurers. Ship owners, including yacht owners, have the right to limit their liability for property damage to about £40 per net registered ton of the vessel causing the damage.

Increasingly, insurers are taking advantage of that right,

although a few insurers have agreements between themselves to the effect that, if vessels they insure collide, they will not take advantage of the right to limit liability.

If an insurer of a yachtman who damaged your boat claims limitation of liability, you will be able to claim the balance of the cost of repairing your boat from your own insurers if you are insured on full terms. If you have to make such a claim, your insurers may say that it will not prejudice your no-claim discount entitlement at renewal.

For larger boats, particularly those used for cruising off the south coast, there is keen competition among insurers. But the cheapest policy may not be the best; there may be many drawbacks.

John Drummond

Industrial unrest at Great Grimpen

The latest despatch from Sicklepath reaches us from the Dartmoor Globe and Argus under the banner headline—'Sicklepath in turmoil yet again'.

Once more the troubled village of Sicklepath suffers from outbreaks of violence—and once more it is the Great Grimpen Mine that has suffused the area with its miasmic influence. But this time the row is over atmospheric pollution and employee health.

The concentration of tin compounds in the air, caused by activated steam from the mine's sludge plant, has given rise to an outbreak of the condition most dreaded in the Stannaries of the world—corns of Cornwall and Malaysia, the devastating Stannic Armpit.

Just how dangerous this is has been hotly denied by leading scientists, but there can be no doubting the discomfort of the sufferers, who squirm about in maddened fashion in an effort to relieve themselves from the terrible axillary itch. Eleven workers in the sludge plant have so far been attacked by the disease, and have in their turn attacked onlookers who have failed to conceal their amusement at the antics its symptoms produce.

Parallel to this serious development is the rumbling controversy that surrounds employees' safety and health at nearby Allied Elderberry Wines. Due to the introduction of a new product, Wurzel Calvados.

So potent is this mixture (every drop of which is distilled for at least 11 days over a raging furnace) that several workers associated with the process claim to have transmogrified into werewolves at the full moon, to the distress of their wives and sweethearts and the minor mauling of two lambs belonging to Father George Molech. 'Losing my scarecrow's trousers the last time was one thing but this is another' he commented afterwards.

Terrified villagers are eating great quantities of garlic and stocking up with silver bullets because nobody has yet told them that these are charms against vampires, and not werewolves after all.

'So industrial unrest broke out once more, as the local convenor of Nasti (National Association of Slack-diddlers, Turncreepers and Idle-bashers), Mr Kevin Luddite, called

workers of all sorts and devious out for indefinite strike.

'At a joint meeting with Lannian Organisation of Lannic Employees (L.O.L.E.), held on Sicklepath V green, Mr Luddite stressed if a solid struggle was undertaken fully and for the combination of St Armpit and Wurzel Calvados could eliminate entire working population, Dartmoor, incapacitating pony-knackers, trout-trappers and bringing entire community to a standstill in consequence.

'We must maintain rights as human beings howled, at which moment arrived a procession of tin-sioners and housewife Sicklepath, waving banners demanding a return to the strikers.

'A pitched battle dev during which both sides and pensioners were slain, stocks and pelleted with elderberries.

'However, the geni British enterprise is cve at hand in Sicklepath. result of painstaking rino ancient remedies, a tivo therapist Miss Sibbling, who is also se of the Great Grimpen Investment Club, esta that concentrated wurze was a well known m cure for stannic armpit Land's End area; and, over, that tin fumes v nowned in Transylvania restoring werewolves to shape.

'Following top level tations between Li Rudolph Grog-Bevingto Lord Tritie of Crick chairmen respectively of Elderberry Wines and Rockall and Hongkong Company, it was agreed that workers l by either condition switch jobs every week the dire effects to he each type of work could each other out.

'So was peace resto the time being, to this West Country beauty's jewel of the Dartmoor scape.'

Francis Kins

MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

Rises					
Year's high	Year's low	Company	Change	Comment	
77p	44 1/2	Mallinson-D	11p to 77p	Bid talk revives	
27 1/2	21 1/2	Portals	16p to 27 1/2	Record profits	
48 1/2	32 1/2	Rio Tinto-Z	5p to 36 1/2	Good annual figs	
40 1/2	35 1/2	Stock Conv	1p to 40 1/2	Int rate hopes	
59 1/2	41 1/2	Ullman	45p to 59 1/2	Chm's statement	
Falls					
91p	38p	Brooks Grp	19p to 38p	1/4 final; profits fall	
39 1/2	23 1/2	Furness Withy	14p to 35 1/2	Fairfax Monopolies ref	
91 1/2	62 1/2	Guthrie	32p to 81 1/2	Bid hopes fade	
71 1/2	50 1/2	Folls-Poyce	51p to 50 1/2	Rad US market	
76p	33 1/2	Serek	24p to 47p	US bid blocked	

Round-up

Post-Budget income bonds • Far East trust

The latest in post-Budget guaranteed income bonds comes from TSB Insurance, paying 10.2 per cent a year net of basic rate tax, (equivalent to 14.5 per cent gross) guaranteed for four years, and providing Capital Guaranteed 12.1 per cent per annum to basic rate taxpayers (17.3 per cent gross) for five years.

These rates appear uncompetitive against the recommended building society term-share rates of 12 per cent and 12.5 per cent after basic rate

tax for four and five-year periods respectively.

But if interest rates fall, as they are expected to do within the next few months, building society term-share rates will also fall for existing investors. The yields on guaranteed bonds will remain the same. Minimum investment on both these bonds is £1,000.

Two Target Building Society's 2 Year High Interest Bond introduced this week also looks attractive, paying 11.75 per cent

a year net of basic rate tax. Not only is this above the recommended BSA rate of 11.5 per cent on two-year term-shares, the rate is also guaranteed throughout the period.

Tyndall Fund Managers has been slowly adding to its geographical range of unit trusts and this weekend launches its Tyndall Far Eastern Fund to invest, as its name suggests, in Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

The intention is to make it a fairly actively managed

fund, and the portfolio is expected to show substantial changes from time to time. For example, Australian shares are conspicuous by their absence from the proposed initial portfolio by are expected to turn up later.

Tyndall's offshore fund specialising in the Far East has, in the two-and-a-half years since its launch, outperformed most of its rivals. The fund has an estimated starting yield of 2.7 per cent and the minimum investment is £1,500.

AP 11/10/50

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

The Times/Halifax
use price indexIndex of average prices of second-hand houses
(nationally adjusted)

	Index	Average price (£)	% change over the preceding year	% change over the preceding 6 months	% change over the preceding 3 months
December	100.0	14,757			
January	100.3	16,133	16.9	9.3	3.8
February	118.2	17,450	23.0	12.0	8.2
March	121.1	17,866	21.1	10.7	2.4
April	122.9	18,132	20.8	8.8	4.7
May	127.8	18,783	24.6	10.5	6.2
June	130.5	19,259	23.6	10.4	7.8
July	131.7	19,441	27.3	12.2	7.2
August	138.2	20,094	30.4	13.6	7.0
September	138.4	20,341	28.1	13.5	5.8
October	142.6	21,038	28.2	16.0	8.2
November	145.2	21,427	28.0	14.1	8.6
December	145.5	21,480	23.1	11.5	5.6
January	149.5	22,065	27.4	13.5	4.9
February	151.4	22,339	26.3	11.2	4.3
March	151.0	22,291	24.8	9.8	3.8
April	154.2	22,751	23.5	8.2	3.1
May	156.2	23,052	22.7	7.6	3.2
June	158.2	23,352	21.3	8.7	4.8

Regional prices of second-hand houses

	March	February	% change over 3 months ended December
London	17,789	17,483	0.9
South East	16,375	16,114	4.8
South West	18,408	18,127	-0.5
East of England	17,944	17,785	2.3
West of England	20,540	20,102	3.3
North East	21,721	21,545	2.3
North West	19,074	18,949	0.8
Yorkshire	24,251	24,080	1.1
Scotland	30,483	30,156	2.7
Wales	31,258	30,712	2.3
Ireland	20,927	21,408	-3.8
Other	19,687	19,638	-3.1

Demand is picking
—selectively

As a month of little change in the housing market, the underlying rate of the underlying rate, seasonally adjusted, again 1.3 per cent. at the first quarter of price of second-hand houses by just under 5 per cent between the last 1979 and the first this year.

average price of a house was based on 12,794 more than the Government's of the stamp duty of £25,000 and over. second-hand houses, of all fall outside the net, but the Budget, at least, expected a minor effect on the demand at the of the market.

is recovering in house buying in April and May. demand will come strongly as ever this year. Budget nor the

Margaret Stone



The Times Business News holiday crossword for investors is growing in popularity—or maybe the Easter version was a little easier than contributor Colin Leach's Christmas crossword! The next one, he has promised will be stiffer, so be warned.

The first correct solution drawn out of the bag yesterday was sent in by Mr. R. G. Birch, of Hammersmith, London. A £10 book token has been despatched to him.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
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The Over-the-Counter Market

Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
1. Airspeed Group	66	+1	6.7	10.2
2. Armitage & Rhodes	29	-	3.8	13.1
3. Bardon Hill	272	+2	13.8	5.1
4. County Cars Pref	80	-	15.3	19.1
5. Deborah Ord	98	+1	7.9	7.2
6. Frank Horsell	110	+2	12.8	12.7
7. Frederick Parker	107	-	16.5	15.4
8. George Blair	68	-	5.2	7.6
9. Jackson Group	113	-	7.2	6.4
10. James Burroughs	280	+2	31.3	11.2
11. Robert Jenkins	280	-	14.3	6.5
12. Torday Limited	27	-	0.8	4.3
13. Twinklford Ord	78	-	12.0	15.4
14. Twinklford ULS	49	-	2.6	5.3
15. Unilock Holdings	47	-	-	-
16. Unilock Holdings New	47	-	-	-
17. Walter Alexander	96	-	4.4	4.5
18. W. S. Yeates	185	-	12.1	6.5

Prepared under provision of SSAP15.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Boosey & Hawkes
nearly halvedBy Our Financial Staff
Losses at its important Edgware instrument-making factory virtually halved pretax profits of music publisher Boosey and Hawkes last year.

Sir Richard Young, the new chairman, reported pretax profits down from £1.1m to £0.6m on a turnover up from £16.5m to £17.9m.

The total gross dividend is maintained at 8.08p with a 5.38p final and the shares eased a shade to 86p.

Boosey's problems at Edgware were that they were not making the sort of instruments that were selling well at the time, and when they were, the factory was not making enough of them.

Sir Richard declined to put a figure on the losses but said they were the main factor in pulling down group profits.

He said that the range of brass and reed instruments at Edgware was good enough to

combar fierce international competition and United Kingdom sales were 20 per cent higher.

But "imbalances in production, together with a shortage of skilled workers and the lengthy period needed to train personnel led to a rise in both in progress and overhead", he said.

He added that management changes have now been made at Edgware, production control specialists have been retained and process and plant changes are being made to ease bottlenecks in output.

There is no breakdown of figures, but Sir Richard says that the growth in earnings from copyright royalties was well maintained.

Boosey's profits have now come down for the third consecutive year from a peak of £2.1m. Warnings that last year was unlikely to match the previous results were sounded by Sir Richard at the halfway stage

Stock markets

Further US bank cuts give late boost

The stock markets opened quickly with steady prices, although news that the BL strike and rail pay issues had been resolved made little impact.

Prices soon started to drift down for the day, but staged a small rally at the end with news from the US that another two banks, Morgan, Guaranty and Chemical Bank, had brought interest charges down 1 per cent to 19 per cent following Chase Manhattan's lead earlier in the week.

The retail price index was much in line with market expectations and had little impact. Gilbey's stocks saw a rather disappointing debut for the new Treasury issue 13 per cent 2004/08, which underwrote price extremes ranging from £194 to £201.

It closed at £201, slightly up on the opening price of £201.16 with the rest of the stock following suit on the American news.

Longs finished £1 to £1 better a fraction off the top. Shorrs, which had a quieter day, finished about £1 up after recovering from an identical dip earlier.

The FT Index, which fell 2 to 4406.4 at 3 pm, ended at 4227, up 0.1.

A shortage of stock and interest promoted by the Dutch shares helped to push Unilever up by 12p to 428p in leading industrials. There was some interest in Dunlop ahead of next Thursday's results and Galtair Corporation was gained 14p to 280p, but by the close the price was down 1p to 279p.

as profit takers moved in after a rise at the beginning of the week.

A variety of special situations provided the market, with features, the most notable being the failure of Rockwell's bid for Serck after United States Justice Department objections. Serck closed 24p down at 47p. Continuing fears over Monopoly Commission intervention in the CY Tung bid for Furness Withy pushed its price 12p to 356p while the Rolls-Royce chairman's warning on Thursday pushed the price down 3p to 501p.

British Car Auctions' reduction in Catlyn's to 6.85 per cent left Catlyn's unchanged at 158p. Brooks Group, which announced

better at 125p after South Carolina's objections to the proposed bid for Liggett.

In London, renewed bid bumps and heavy buying in Malins Denny pushed the price up by 31p to 77p, while Montague L. Meyer dipped 2p to 108p. International Timber also saw selective buying and added 3p to 113p. Gratian Warehouses was depressed by 4p to 82p with nervous selling before the expected poor results.

Sobranie returned from suspension and dipped 2p to 38p following the announcement that Galleher had bought its tobacco licensee interests.

Oils had an unexpectedly busy day with the majors moving ahead. Shell gained 4p to 352p after the annual report, BP added 6p to 342p and Ultramar was popular, rising 10p to 590p.

Tricentral advanced 14p to 314p and the second-liners followed the trend with Caledonian Offshore in a thin market reaching 290p at one point. It closed 30p up at 250p, and Aran Energy put on 12p to 336p.

Banks were easier for the most part, although Barclays managed to regain earlier losses with the announcement of its £165m purchase of a United States credit business. It finished in down at 415p while strike-hit National Westminster dipped by the same to 330p. Midland at 340p and Lloyds at 300p were unchanged. Insurances went the same way all day with a few pence off

most stocks. Royal dropped 7p to 313p, with Commercial Union 1p down at 134p. General Accident fell back by 4p to 260p.

Properties, which had been down until the afternoon, revived when the prime-rate cuts came through and finished at the top, better on the day. MEPC was up at 1p to 208p and Stock Conversion, which was popular with few sellers, gained 15p to 405p.

Mines were firm following good dividends announced during the week and Western Holdings moved up 53p to 566 while West Driefontein gained

Soon insurance group London United Investments will report on 1979. Thanks partly to continued dollar weakness annual profits could be 15 per cent down after the first half drop from £1.61m to £1.45m, but a 60 per cent dividend increase would of course do something to soften the blow. The shares are now 157p.

\$24 to \$65 after large United States rises the previous night. Equity turnover for April 17 was £79.75m (number of bargains was 11,511). The most active share according to Exchange Telegraph were Shell, GEC, Mallinson Denny, Midland Bank, BP, Unilever, City and Foreign Investment, Furness Withy, Lasso, Tricentral, Royal Insurance, ICI, Boots, Pilkington and Serck.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	per share	per share	data	data	total
Andis Fidelity (F)*	2.1(2.1)	0.19(0.24)	14.8(17.2)	3.76(3.76)	—	5.66(5.66)
Boosey & Hawkes (F)	17.9(16.6)	0.6(1.1)	—	—	—	—
Towles (F)	—	0.75(0.86)	—	—	—	—
Yorkshire Fine Wool (F)	3.8(4.0)	0.05(0.13)	2.13(6.38)	—	—	0.5(2.0)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = loss.

S E looks at Towles complaint

The Stock Exchange is making a routine inquiry into dealings in the shares of Towles, the textile group.

The investigation concerns a complaint made by Mr Peter Bailey, a textile millionaire and 23 per cent holder of Towles shares. He claims that there was an offer by a stockbroker made for Towles shares at below market prices ruling at the time.

Meanwhile Towles' trading profits reported yesterday showed a fall from £862,000 to £758,000 for the year to February.

Disappointing results for Arlen Electrical

Arlen Electrical, formerly Enalon Plastics, yesterday reported pretax profits of £199,000 for the six months to the end of last December.

With a year-end change, Mr L. Redfern, the chairman, says there are no comparison figures, but the results are disappointing. For the nine months to the end of last June profits were £502,000. The decline came from three areas, but the most significant was starter switches.

However the group reports a marked improvement in the past two months and the position for recovering had debts from Nigeria and Sudan, for which the group made £95,000

provision last year—has improved.

The Interim Dividend is 1.5p.

Ferguson Industrial buys Cadwath stake

The 5 per cent stake in Cadwath Industrial Holdings was acquired recently by Ferguson Industrial Holdings and not by Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey, as stated yesterday.

New Racal-Redac company for UK

Racal-Redac has announced that its policy of creating separate marketing companies in Europe and the United States has been extended to Britain.

A new company, Racal-Redac Marketing, has been established at Chesham, Hertfordshire, to continue and accelerate the sales and back-up facilities to the expanding United Kingdom market.

Racal also announced yesterday that the cash consideration under the ordinary and "A" ordinary offers for Decca shares was about £9.1m. Elections for cash alternatives represented 12 per cent of acceptances.

Yorkshire Spinners omits final

Yorkshire Fine Woollen Spinners, which made profits of £200,000, reported a pre-tax loss of £55,958 in what the chairman, Mr George Verity, described as the "worst business climate for many years".

Turnover dropped from £4m to £3.6m and the group is not paying a final dividend, making the total for the year 7142p against a total last time of 2.857p.

Mr Verity says the difficult conditions continued into the current year, but there are now signs of improvements.

Briefly

Drake & Scull Holdings Mr Michael Abbott, chairman, has sold 70,000 ordinary shares, at 42p each, reducing his holdings from 542,250 to 472,250 ordinary shares. Chairman A. A. Malevez, joint deputy chairman, has sold 80,000 ordinary shares at 42p each, reducing his beneficial holding from 284,650 to 204,650 ordinary shares. His non-beneficial holding of 745,000 ordinary shares remains unchanged.

Dunham Mount Holdings announced yesterday that its bid to take building group Norwest Holst into private ownership has succeeded. The majority of shareholders accepting its offer opted for cash.

W. S. Yeates: At AGM chairman said that results for first five months of the current year showed further improvements, especially in service, repair, construction and parts distribution activities, where profits were significantly up on last year.

Closures
at Louis

Butchers and meat processors, Louis C. Edwards and Sons (Manchester), which was taken over by food millionaire James Gulliver in March, is to close some meat-making operations next month.

In a statement last night the company said operating losses on the sausage production and other frozen meat products for the first three months of this year had significantly increased and it did not consider that the activity was capable of long-term profitable development.

Last year this side of its meat operations lost £19,000 on sales of £580,000.

Closure costs are expected to be £450,000, which will include redundancies and operating losses and will be charged to last year's account.

Fixed and net current assets employed in the sausage and other frozen meat products total £400,000 net of closure costs.

Mr Gulliver says that the operating loss will not affect the group profits forecast before tax and extraordinary items.

Hawley buys
amusements
group

Mr Michael Ashcroft, chairman of slot machine to bed fittings group Hawley Leisure is paying around £1m to buy the London-based Cherry Leisure concern which operates amusement machines like space invaders.

Hawley are paying a £50,000 deposit, a further £450,000 on completion in June and the balance in two stages to June 1981.

Cherry's turnover for the nine months to the end of March has been annualised to £3.5m and should, says Mr Ashcroft, significantly swell Hawley's pretax profits.

But the major benefit will not be felt in the current year. The group does not take control until June. However, group turnover this year should be around £1m and it is understood that no drop in margins is expected.

That could bring profits this year to at least £500,000. Cherry's assets include around 1,800 amusement machines, motor vehicles plant and equipment and around 16 leasehold properties.

Property man bids
for Lidstone

Butcher and poultry group Lidstone announced yesterday that former property business man Mr Jack Walker has made a takeover bid for the group through Greavalk nominees.

Greavalk, nominee for Jack Walker Children's Trust, the Ramon Greene Children's Trust, Mr Cyril Blaustein and certain members of his family and Mr Henry Kaye and certain members of his family, is offering £2.80 a share and £1 for the preference shares, valuing Lidstone at around £750,000.

The prices are as expected last month when Lidstone disclosed it had been approached.

Lidstone's chairman said, however, that the company is in the hands of the official receiver who has estimated debts at £1.8m.

At that time no figure was disclosed but the group said that if the debt proves irrecoverable, "provisional arrangements are being made to protect the company from any resultant loss and trading continues profitably".

Last night's announcement contained no figure for the losses either and Mr J. Alastair Fordyce, the company secretary, was unavailable for comment.

The company's statement said that prices for the bid had been negotiated on the "hypothesis that losses arising from the Gilmore debt had not been incurred".

Mr Sticheb is said to be taking a lower price for his holding so that shareholders who accept the offer do not suffer from any losses arising in respect of the Gilmore debt.

Mr Sticheb has promised to accept the offer on 120,000 ordinary shares and 10,000 preference shares which together account for 50.38 per cent of the total voting capital.

Motorola quarterly earnings up

Motorola yesterday reported increased first quarter sales and earnings from the same period a year ago.

Sales and other revenues were \$754m, up 23 per cent from \$613m in 1979. Earnings were \$42m, or \$1.35 a share, compared with \$36m, or \$1.16 a share, in the quarter last year. Net margin for the quarter was 5.6 per cent against 5.9 per cent in 1979.

Motorola said it expects continued growth in sales and earnings for the balance of 1980.

First quarter operating margins were up from a year earlier in semiconductors, down for the communications group, and flat for the government

electronics division, while the automotive products division had an operating loss.

The communications group's sales and net equipment orders were up 16 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively in the quarter, Motorola said.

It said the government electronics division had more than 50 per cent gains in sales and bookings, and backlog were up 60 per cent.

Pre-tax profits rose 25 per cent to 1,940m Swiss francs from 1,566m in 1979. However, net profit did not rise as fast because of higher financing costs and slightly higher fiscal charges, Nestlé said. Net profit rose 10.4 per cent to \$16m from \$15m in 1979.

BASF London move

Arrangements were said yesterday to be in hand for the whole of the issued share capital of BASF to be admitted to the official list of the Stock Exchange in London.

The introduction is being sponsored by Kleiwort, Ben and S. C. Waring, and Company. Brokers to the introduction are Rowe and Pittman.

The listing is planned to coincide with the publication of the annual report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1979, which is expected to take place in the middle of May.

BASF announced yesterday that consolidated net profit of the chemical group rose 47 per cent to Dm619m (£144m) in 1979 and said it is proposing a dividend increase to Dm18 per Dm50 share from Dm6

International

Continued growth in sales and earnings for the balance of 1980.

First quarter operating margins were up from a year earlier in semiconductors, down for the communications group, and flat for the government

electronics division, while the automotive products division had an operating loss.

The communications group's sales and net equipment orders were up 16 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively in the quarter, Motorola said.

It said the government electronics division had more than 50 per cent gains in sales and bookings, and backlog were up 60 per cent.

Pre-tax profits rose 25 per cent to 1,940m Swiss francs from 1,566m in 1979. However, net profit did not rise as fast because of higher financing costs and slightly higher fiscal charges, Nestlé said. Net profit rose 10.4 per cent to \$16m from \$15m in 1979.

BASF London move

Arrangements were said yesterday to be in hand for the whole of the issued share capital of BASF to be admitted to the official list of the Stock Exchange in London.

Saint-Gobain to buy
stake in Olivetti

Olivetti announced yesterday that Saint-Gobain Pont a Mousson of France will acquire a 10.5 per cent stake in the Italian maker of office machinery and data systems.

At a press conference, Olivetti also announced that it boosted profits in 1979 more than tenfold, 23,800m lire from 2,071m in 1978. The board proposed to pay a dividend of 100 lire a share on both its ordinary and preferred shares, the company's first dividend in five years.

Saint-Gobain said later in Paris it would buy Olivetti shares on the market in addition to those acquired through its subscription to the capital increase announced in Milan, taking its total to about 20 per cent.

Informal sources said Saint-Gobain's total investment in the operation would be about 800m francs.

The company said the move corresponded with its policy of diversification into electronics and data processing, which was adopted last year.

Another aspect of this policy was the purchase of a 20 per cent stake in CIE Des Machines Bull, which has the majority holding in CII Honeywell Bull.

A new unit trust investing in the dynamic
economies of the Pacific Basin
Tyndall Far Eastern Fund
First offer of units at 50p

Tyndall's new unit trust, the Far Eastern Fund, invests in some of the fastest growing economies of the world—Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and other countries of the Pacific Basin.

In these countries private enterprise, national character and good government have produced a series of economic miracles in which rates of growth have been sustained which would be hard to parallel in the West.

The proportions invested in the individual markets will vary and

Commodities

The City of London premises of the major United States brokerage house, E. F. Hutton & Co., Inc., 100 Broadway, suffered a major fire on Thursday but the company hopes trading operations will be back to normal by Monday. Hutton & Co. managing director, Mr. Jim Sweeney told Reuters that the fire destroyed about 30 to 35 per cent of the company's offices, including the telecommunications switchboard. Other electronic equipment connected with the company's commodity operations was damaged but the trading room was largely protected by a fire protection wall.

RETAIL PRICES		SHOW DANCES	
The following are the new numbers		Average price	
January 1974-'09 for real		1974-'09 for real	
not rounded or adjusted, used		not rounded or adjusted, used	
yesterday		yesterday	
(1) AM	(2) AM	(3) AM	(4) AM
			Rate of
			increase in
			21 or at
			months in
			years earlier
			1968 =
March	210.6	215.8	8.2
April	210.2	215.9	11.9
May	210.2	215.9	12.8
June	210.0	218.4	15.9
July	210.1	218.1	15.7
Aug.	210.1	218.1	15.7
Sept.	210.2	218.6	16.5
Oct.	210.2	218.6	16.5
Nov.	210.7	218.9	16.5
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Analysts said investors are worried that the recession could prove severe.

Mr William Miller, the Treasury Secretary forecast a moderate recession lasting two or three quarters.

Another limiting factor was news that United States banks' net borrowed reserves fell \$184m to \$1.850m, in the week ended April 18, according to the New York Federal Reserve Bank.

Last week's total was revised up-

<p> 1. Johnnie Walker 21% 2. Crown Zellerbach 19% 3. Heinz 17% 4. Dr. Pepper 16% 5. Dr. Pepper 15% 6. Dr. Pepper 14% 7. Dr. Pepper 13% 8. Dr. Pepper 12% 9. Dr. Pepper 11% 10. Dr. Pepper 10% 11. Dr. Pepper 9% 12. Dr. Pepper 8% 13. Dr. Pepper 7% 14. Dr. Pepper 6% 15. Dr. Pepper 5% 16. Dr. Pepper 4% 17. Dr. Pepper 3% 18. Dr. Pepper 2% 19. Dr. Pepper 1% 20. Dr. Pepper 0% </p>	<p> 1. Dr. Pepper 21% 2. Dr. Pepper 19% 3. Dr. Pepper 17% 4. Dr. Pepper 16% 5. Dr. Pepper 15% 6. Dr. Pepper 14% 7. Dr. Pepper 13% 8. Dr. Pepper 12% 9. Dr. Pepper 11% 10. Dr. Pepper 10% 11. Dr. Pepper 9% 12. Dr. Pepper 8% 13. Dr. Pepper 7% 14. Dr. Pepper 6% 15. Dr. Pepper 5% 16. Dr. Pepper 4% 17. Dr. Pepper 3% 18. Dr. Pepper 2% 19. Dr. Pepper 1% 20. Dr. Pepper 0% </p>	<p> Canadian Prices 1. Alcan Alumin 19% 2. Alcan Alumin 18% 3. Alcan Alumin 17% 4. Alcan Alumin 16% 5. Alcan Alumin 15% 6. Alcan Alumin 14% 7. Alcan Alumin 13% 8. Alcan Alumin 12% 9. Alcan Alumin 11% 10. Alcan Alumin 10% 11. Alcan Alumin 9% 12. Alcan Alumin 8% 13. Alcan Alumin 7% 14. Alcan Alumin 6% 15. Alcan Alumin 5% 16. Alcan Alumin 4% 17. Alcan Alumin 3% 18. Alcan Alumin 2% 19. Alcan Alumin 1% 20. Alcan Alumin 0% </p>
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Traded options business was generally spread through the total of 703 contracts, which was up from 597 the previous day. One broker finished an order for 80 contracts in E.P. with 107 altogether, but Land Securities came out with the highest total at 378. Rascal

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Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing

When summer hovers, I always have delightful visions of myself arranged on an elegant garden chair under a shady umbrella sipping something refreshing and preferably unmentionably expensive. The truth finds me on my knees, individually poisoning the more insidious weeds with the zeal of a Borgias. The trouble is, I never remember in time to acquire the necessary furniture to fill upon and thus attract the sort of benefactor likely to bring home the bubbly.

So to protect you from the same fate, let me recommend some delightful garden furniture which will create exactly the right gracious living atmosphere. They are simple folding deckchairs in natural canvas, but the thing that makes them different is the cheerful design of brightly coloured tulips on the backs. They cost £12.50 each and there is an adjustable garden parasol to match, with a tulip border, at £19.50. If you want a base for your parasol, there is a white metal-framed table with a slatted top—the parasol goes through the hole in the middle—at £22.50. All from branches of Habitat.

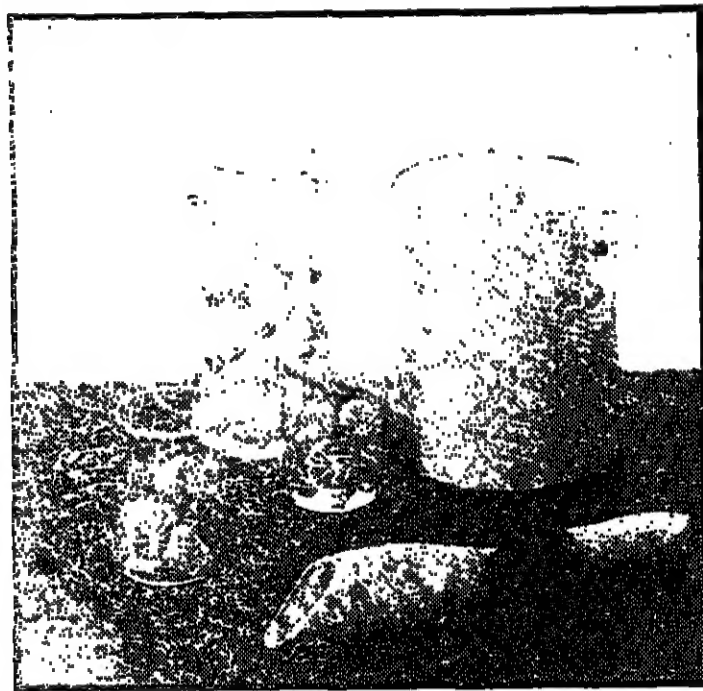
Outdoor eating is becoming more and more sophisticated, so to go with your garden furniture you really need some coordinating tableware, and I found an attractive selection at the new D. H. Evans shop at Wood Green. That they should choose this north London shopping centre for their first branch since they began in Oxford Street 101 years ago is an interesting comment on the state of commuter spending.

The stock is exactly the same as in Oxford Street, on a slightly smaller scale, but with the same emphasis on good value and good service. They have always made a point of catering, on their fashion floors, for short and large figures as well as for average sizes, and their coterie department has long been regarded as one of the best in London, with a range up to double D fittings and a staff who are all qualified fitters. The same tradition of excellence is being continued at Wood Green.

But back to the garden. I particularly liked the decorated glasses from America with mix and match ice-bucket, place mats and napkins. There are various colours, including some sophisticated checked glasses in blue and white, and the lemonade set illustrated in a sunny yellow and green at £3.25 a glass, with a matching jug £21.95. The ice bucket £21.95, table mats £2.95 each and napkins £1.95 each come in either colour to suit as you please. You can find them all at D. H. Evans in Oxford Street and Wood Green.

Below: yellow and green lemonade glasses, £3.25 each, matching jug £21.95. Yellow ice bucket £21.95, green table mats £2.95 each, yellow napkins £1.95 each. From D. H. Evans, Oxford Street and Wood Green.

Bottom: deckchairs in natural canvas blooming with multi-coloured tulips, £12.50 each with matching parasol, £19.50. From branches of Habitat.



A potter with a most individual style is Sylvie Nisbet who created the mirror and toast rack illustrated. All her pieces are white, with occasional touches of pink, green and blue and she has a particular fondness for doves and animals, all of which have a rather naive charm. She produces her pieces in a tiny room in Kensington and as she has no space to store them, roars off on her motor bike immediately they are finished, delivering them at top speed round London.



Left: the mirror shown is £16 and the toast rack £4, both from The Best of British, 25 Museum Street, London WC1. Boudicca British Crafts Shop, 42 Beauchamp Place, London SW3, and the Lock Shop, Camden Lock, London, NW1. Postal enquiries to Sylvie Nisbet, 70a Cheval Place, London SW7.

Can anyone explain why collecting books appeals more to men than to women? The question has particularly puzzled me since a visit last week to the Basilisk Press, a fascinating shop in Hampstead and the only one of its kind in the world.

It is run by American-born Charlene Garry, whose own position in publishing made me ponder the question. She is one of only four women in antiquarian book publishing and the only one who specialises in selling private press productions.

Trained as an art historian, she knew nothing about publishing when she started Basilisk six years ago—in fact, she had been running a discotheque in Hongkong—but she had an extensive knowledge of the contents of many museums and drew on that to select material for one beautiful and unusual book a year. Then, in 1977, she opened the shop at 32 England Lane, London NW3, to deal in and catalogue all the private press and limited edition books in print, in Britain and other countries.

If you have never seen a collection of books produced by small individual presses, and I had not, you may wonder just what makes them special. As Charlene Garry says: "People can understand

a high price for a book if it's old, but not if it's new."

First, private press productions have no commercial constraints. They could not possibly produce the numbers and profits required by the big publishing houses. They publish poetry, lithographs, woodcuts, botanical drawings in limited editions—limited not for any spurious financial reason but simply because hand printing is a laborious business and copies cannot be regurgitated endlessly as they can on a commercial printing press.

More, these books are often the work of one person, from the making of the paper to the printing or calligraphy and the binding. In some cases the publisher is also the author, which makes each volume a work of art with a texture and beauty which is quite individual.

The books published by Basilisk themselves are all of previously unpublished material which originated in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. They only consider material which can be printed so accurately that it is virtually indistinguishable from the original, and editions are always limited to 500 copies.

Among the most beautiful was a remarkable book of Australian flower paintings made by Ferdinand Bauer on the

first circumnavigation of Australia (1801-5). He is considered the finest of all botanical painters and the originals are in the British Museum, locked away in a cupboard to prevent fading. These reproductions, beautifully bound in hand-marbled Swedish paper, cost £495.

The other Basilisk publication which intrigued me were three facsimiles of the Red Books of Humphry Repton, which he produced between 1792 and 1812 for landowners—among them the Prince Regent. He would present his proposals for improving their property in a red-bound book, illustrated with watercolour paintings of the before and after views. Sometimes there is an overlay which, if you lift it up, reveals the view which you could achieve if you had the little matter of the intervening hill removed.

The collection of Red Books includes Repton's major works, Sheringham Hall, Norfolk; Antony House, Cornwall; and Attingham Park, Shropshire. The originals would cost more than £12,000. With a companion volume tracing his career and influence, this set is £575.

There are also extracts from Christopher Fry's plays, signed by the author and beautifully illustrated by Charles Wad-

worth, at £140 and the last remaining copies of a 1971 edition of the paintings and drawings and poems of Sidney Nolan at £25—the printing alone would cost more today—and many small and delightful books at £5 and £10.

For me, the appeal of all these hand-produced books is that by touching them you feel in actual contact with the artist who created them—the sensation you get from pottery, for instance, rather than from paintings.

If you cannot get to the shop, Basilisk produces an explicit catalogue at £3.50. It describes all the presses throughout the country, with details of the paper and techniques used. There may be one near you that you could visit.

Incidentally, I wondered why such a fearsome beast had been chosen to represent such a loving occupation. Charlene Garry's answer was precise and to the point:

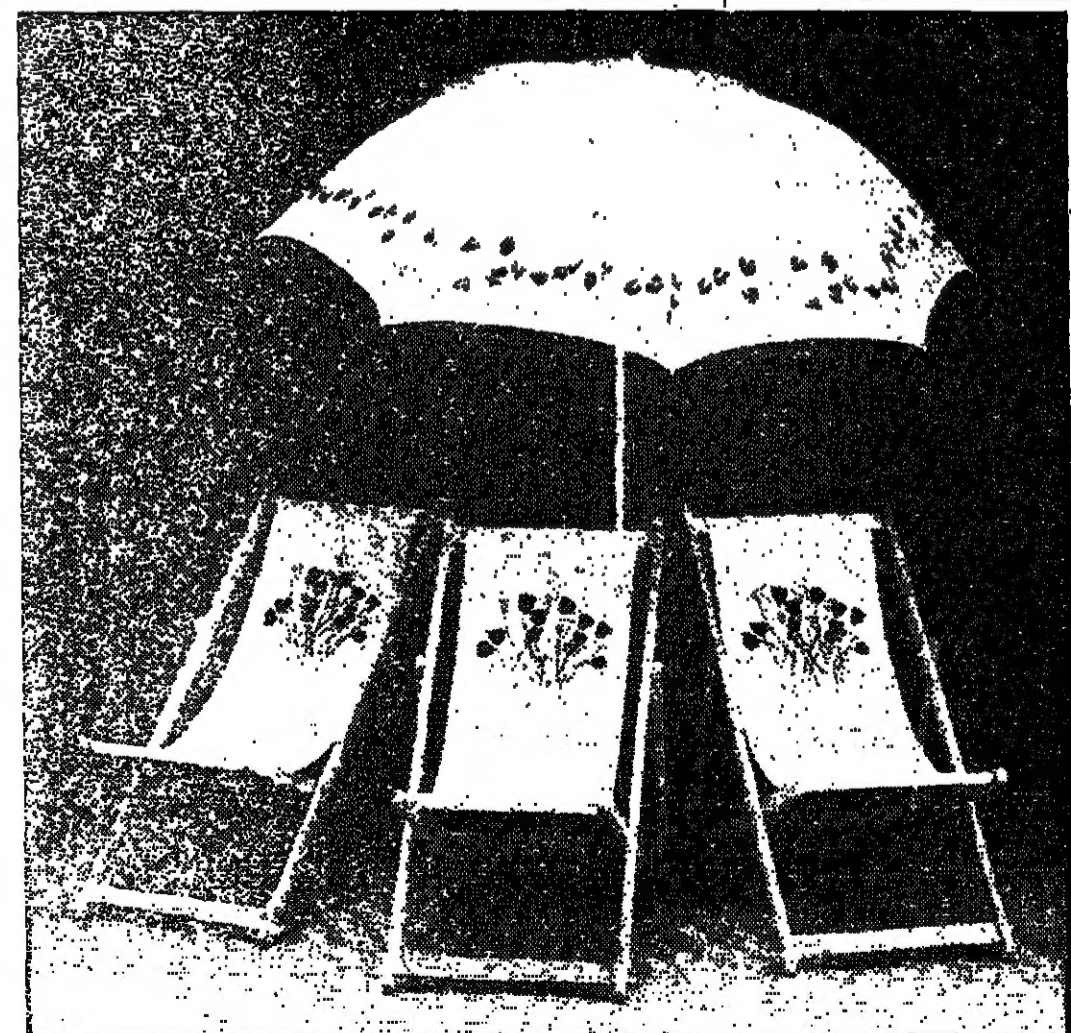
"Partly because the basilisk was used as a watermark in sixteenth century French paper, partly because the beast with its stony stare would be a good guardian of treasures, which these are, and partly because private presses tend to have the name of a mythical beast and this was the only pronounceable one left."



In a small village in Derbyshire from which it takes its name, and on the site of the original kiln set up by Joseph Bourne in 1809, is a pottery which leads the field for informal tableware—Dentby. Mr Bourne was a customer and he started making pottery because he wanted something in which to keep his ink. He set up his son in the pottery business on what has since been described as the finest bed of stoneware clay in Europe—a natural clay which gives Dentby its particular texture.

tural quality, unlike the blue used in earthenware and china. It was not until the 19th century that Dentby—served—made over to tableware, but by 1915 they had a substantial export market in America. They now export to many countries, including the East, and 10 years ago it decided to rev up their European sales with an aggressive marketing policy—by getting out there and knocking doors. The result is that France is now their biggest export market outside North America.

Their latest design, Bawell, is typical of the way they do things. It is a simple, elegant, and functional piece of pottery. It is available from Dentby in major stores, including Wick, Brent Cross, Croydon, and Regent Street, London. Selected pieces are available in branches: Timothy, White.



One of the problems about planning a shopping trip to London is the impossibility of finding anywhere for lunch that is not overpopulated or overpriced. This week I discovered a delightful restaurant that is neither.

It is the Brunswick, at 60 Great Cumberland Place, W1, a couple of blocks north of Marble Arch and next door to the Bryanston Court Hotel, of which it is part. It is relaxing and pleasantly decorated, the tables are not too close, the service is charming and, most

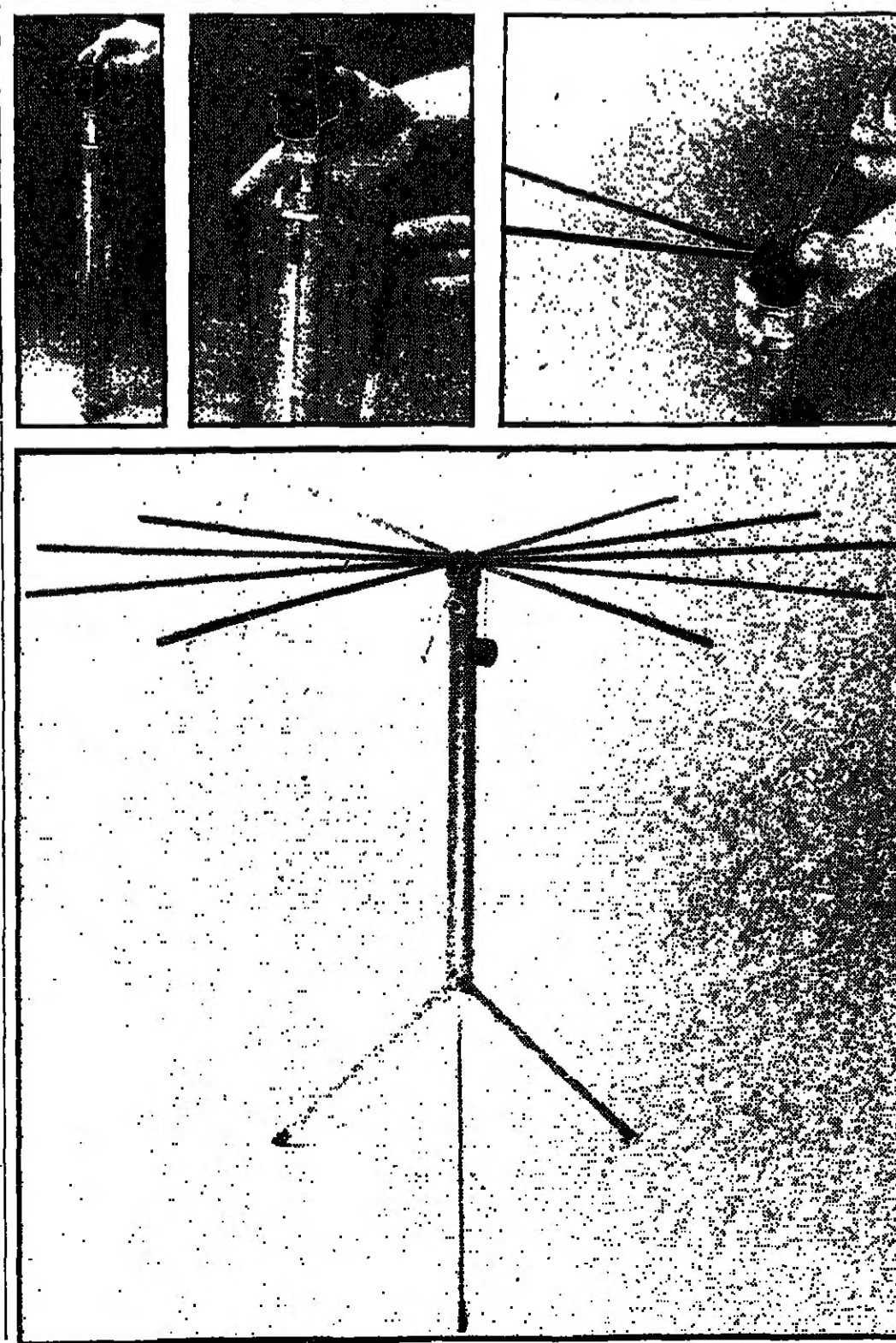
important, the value is quite remarkable.

There is an à la carte menu, but the three-course lunch offers an excellent choice for £4.65. My companion and I chose apple, celery, prawn and walnut cocktail and a French onion soup, a huge charcoal grilled steak and a baked river trout with almonds, plus, I am ashamed to say, a chocolate mousse and a Bavaroi, but the trolley was so tempting that our weak wills stood no chance. House wine costs 60p a glass.

These days I come away

from many restaurants, hamburger or haute cuisine, feeling that the price I paid was twice the value. This was one of those rare occasions when a bill of double the size would not have surprised me, and I would still have felt the extravagance worth while.

As there are not many places where you can get an adequate meal in London, much less a good one, for under £5, including VAT, I suggest you book. The number is 01-258 3-81 or 01-262 2722. The set lunch is served between 12 and 2.30 pm on weekdays only.



The Times Special Offer

Taking the air wherever you like

Placed judiciously in the corner of a modern living room this silver tripod could be mistaken for a piece of futuristic sculpture. But it has a much more practical use: it clothes dryer and airer.

It is also a very neat piece of design. Folded it becomes a simple cylinder that will peak easily into or store in a corner of a cupboard. The rubber tipped fold down to form the tripod and are secured by a cylinder. Under the neat plastic cap, secured by a catch, are 12 spokes 23in long which pull out from central cylinder to give 23ft of hanging space. Although looks delicate, it is in fact very stable. The arms are clad steel with a chromium plated finish and the thing is rustproof.

Fully extended the height is 38in and the width 47in it can be used in a bathroom, on a balcony or patio, is a particular boon for camping and caravanning holiday homes, and houseboats—in fact anywhere drying space is at a premium.

Called the Radial Airer, it is sturdy and well made can be put up and taken down in less than a minute. Design Council approval and costs £14.95, including postage and packing.

To order, please complete the coupon in block letters. This is open to readers in the UK only and normal delivery is within days of receipt of order. Money refunded if returned within days from receipt. Queries, not orders, to 01-434 3761.

Send to: The Times Radial Airer, Selective Marketing, 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN.

Please send me Radial Airer(s) @ £14.95 each in postage and packing.

My cheque/PO for £..... made payable to Selective Marketing Limited is enclosed. (Please write name and address on side of cheque.)

Please debit my Barclay/Access card No.

Signature

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Reg Office 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD

We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When the date of publication is changed, we will endeavour to inform you as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries Department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (ext. 7888). We cannot be held responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPIES 24 HOURS

Alterations to copy is 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon on Sunday. On all cancellations, a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

BUT THE GOD OF all grace, who hath called us, unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that we had obtained forgiveness of our former sins, through his blood, to himself to us, that we should bring forth fruit unto him, by the good works, which he hath prepared for us, that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:8-10

BIRTHS

ASTWOOD—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. David Miller, a daughter, Lucy Rose Miller.

BRUNTON—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Brunton, a daughter, Lucy Rose Brunton.

CLARK—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Clark, a daughter, Lucy Rose Clark.

FRANKS—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Franks, a daughter, Lucy Rose Franks.

MAKIN—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Makin, a daughter, Lucy Rose Makin.

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DEATHS

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BRUNTON—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Brunton, a daughter, Lucy Rose Brunton.

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MAKIN—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Makin, a daughter, Lucy Rose Makin.

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DEATHS

ASTWOOD—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. David Miller, a daughter, Lucy Rose Miller.

BRUNTON—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Brunton, a daughter, Lucy Rose Brunton.

CLARK—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Clark, a daughter, Lucy Rose Clark.

FRANKS—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Franks, a daughter, Lucy Rose Franks.

MAKIN—On April 11th, to Mrs. and Mr. John Makin, a daughter, Lucy Rose Makin.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 23

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

where your money goes...

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

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UK HOLIDAYS

A BREAK FROM THE SMOKE

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY ANY COUNTRY HOTEL

Can offer, for your next holiday...

Can offer, for your next holiday...

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EUROFARE

Cuts the Cost of Flying

Embark on your next holiday...

Embark on your next holiday...

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

LAST MINUTE

PORTLAND HOLIDAYS BARGAIN

Take a Portland holiday...

Take a Portland holiday...

Take a Portland holiday...

Take a Portland holiday...

Take a Portland holiday...

Take a Portland holiday...

Take a Portland holiday...

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